

The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's Real Newspaper

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Marty Gras!

Borough President Markowitz gave his State of the Borough speech last Thursday night, and filled it with proposals, performances and plenty of kitsch.

BEER MAN!

Stoop drinker gets off

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

The case against a man accused of drinking beer on his own stoop has been dismissed, but before you go cracking open a Pabst or a Brooklyn Lager in celebration, be warned — the case was dismissed on a technicality. Yes, Kimber VanRy is no longer facing a \$25 fine for the public drinking summons he received on Aug. 27 for gulping a Sierra Nevada on his front stoop, but Judge Eugene Schwartzwald dismissed the case on Tuesday morning only because it “took too long” to get the case to trial. “I’m dismissing this on ‘speedy trial’ grounds,” said the judge, using shorthand to refer to plaintiffs’ constitutional right to a prompt trial. “This has been going on too long.”

Though he did not reveal how he might have ruled on the merits of the case, Schwartzwald did tell VanRy’s lawyer, Tina Kansas, “You did a nice job on the motion.” That motion conveyed the substance of VanRy’s challenge to the portion of the city’s open-container law that allows cops to write summonses for any drinking that is done in view of the public, even if the drinking itself is done on private property, such as a front stoop. VanRy said he was drinking his Sierra Nevada on his Sterling Place front steps, far from the public sidewalk. His summons set off a wide debate over that most iconic of Brooklyn public spaces: the stoop. See **BEER** on page 11

THE GAP CRAPPER

Pay potty primed for Plaza

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

Talk about filling the GAP! The city is moving towards placing Brooklyn’s first official public toilet in Grand Army Plaza — finally bringing some relief to the heart (and other organs) of the borough. The proposed 25-cent, self-cleaning toilet has some Park Slope residents cheering the notion that they might soon be communing with a commode near such attractions as the central branch of the Brooklyn Public Library, the Civil War memorial arch, Prospect Park and the Brooklyn Museum. Of course, no one thinks the toilet will stand up to both poops and perps.



“I think it’s wonderful, but I don’t know how long it will last,” said Maria Grillo, a mother from Sunset Park. “People will trash it.” Michael Keeler, who works in Park Slope, near the site of the proposed crapper, agreed that “the toilet will be filthy, unsightly and no one will clean it.” The Department of Transportation strongly disagreed, citing the agency’s experience with its two existing public toilets in Queens and in Madison Square Park in Manhattan. “They hold up well,” said Brooke McKenna, the assistant commissioner in charge of the “street furniture” program. The reason, of course, is that the city has nothing to do See **CRAPPER** on page 2

LOBSTROSITY!

King-sized crustacean wading for freedom



Ashley Lou Smith, a volunteer from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, offers her respects to Craig.

By Aisha Gawad
for The Brooklyn Paper

The 20-pound lobster of Dyker Heights will have to wait a few more days for his freedom ride. In a scene right out of a madcap comedy from the 1930s, volunteers from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals refused on Tuesday to allow “Craig the Crustacean” to be transported by the United Parcel Service to New Hampshire because they don’t trust UPS to treat the mammoth mollusk humanely. This fish tale started, as so many do, with a groundbreaking report last week on BrooklynPaper.com, which revealed (in words, pictures and some stunning video) the existence of Craig in his own tank at the Halu Japanese restaurant on 13th Avenue. Owner Gina Ng had contacted The Paper to say that she wanted to hand over the brassy bottom-feeder to PETA because the organization promised to repatriate the lobster into the icy Atlantic. At 20 pounds, some experts say Craig could be 120 years old — too old to be useful to hungry humans. See **LOBSTER** on page 11



Nasty is nice

Nasty Canasta will lead a randy tribute to the borough’s other show biz legend, singer Neil Diamond, on Monday, Feb. 23. If that’s not enough fun, see **GO Brooklyn**, starting on page 7, for the goings-on about town.

More money woes at Bridge ‘Park’

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Yet another revenue-generating component of the beleaguered Brooklyn Bridge “Park” development is on hold because of the faltering economy. The Brooklyn Paper has learned. Casting new doubts on the financial viability of the housing, retail and open space project along the Brooklyn Heights and DUMBO waterfront, the long-stated plan of converting the long-closed Empire

Stores warehouse into a money-making retail center has been put off. It’s the latest setback for the waterfront development and the crumbling, Civil War-era building. Years of neglect — and an inability to agree on a developer — culminated in a partial collapse of the state-owned building in 2007 that required perimeter fencing and the closure of one entrance to Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park. That entrance — at the corner of Dock and Water streets in DUMBO

— finally reopened last week, but the larger problems remain. The state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation told The Brooklyn Paper this week that the agency had indefinitely postponed delivering the building to the Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation — which says it doesn’t want to take possession in the current economic climate. “At some point we will pass the title on to the Brooklyn Bridge Development Corporation — but quite frankly, what they’ve been saying

to us is: ‘Not right now,’” said the state agency’s Regional Director Rachel Gordon, who visited the site on Friday with state Sen. Daniel Squadron (D-Brooklyn Heights), whose office called for the reopening of the entrance. The indefinite postponement of the Empire Stores plan comes just weeks after The Brooklyn Paper reported that two other key parts of the development’s funding stream — a 225-bed hotel planned for Pier 1, and hundreds of luxury apartments — were shelved because of

the financial crisis. But those behind the 1.3-mile-long development — whose original \$150-million price tag is now \$347 million — claim that everything is going according to plan. “None of the revenue generating sources are cancelled or off the table,” said spokeswoman Lisa Willner in an e-mail. That said, she added, “We do not have a schedule to release RFPs for either of these development sites because of the current economic See **PARK** on page 12

Wine of the times

Barrels of fun in Red Hook



Red Hook Winery owner Mark Snyder gave The Brooklyn Paper a preview of his first vintage. It was good. Very good.

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

It’s almost the days of wine and roses in Red Hook. The first vintage from the neighborhood’s soon-to-open winery will be bottled in the coming weeks — and the makers invited The Brooklyn Paper for an exclusive tour of their Dwight Street libations laboratory. There, experienced Californians Bob Foley and Abe Schoener employ a mix of traditional and technologically advanced methods for cooking up their own batches of wine under the shared name, Red Hook Wines. The grapes, of course, aren’t grown in Brooklyn, but come from the North Fork of Long Island. They were crushed and put into barrels in the former arms factory and bordello at the corner of Van Dyke Street, where they sit to this day, fermenting and improving (in most cases). “Wines are like raising kids,” waxed a sober Mark Snyder, one of the partners that founded the venture. “They become bratty at times. They want to do bad things.” Large-scale producers may elect to subject the unruly wines to a “rigid structure,” of additives, but his colleagues prefer to “be gentler and more nurturing, though it takes a lot more time.” The Brooklyn Paper sampled wines See **WINERY** on page 2



Tree-son!

Strong winds sent a large limb into a car on President Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues in Park Slope on Thursday. The afternoon incident occurred while the Kia’s owner was in Manhattan.

New Rep. in Ridge loves stimulation

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

Bay Ridge’s freshman Rep. Mike McMahon backed the nearly \$800-billion federal stimulus package on Friday — he’s a Democrat, after all — and promptly called The Brooklyn Paper buzzing about his first truly historic vote. “It felt good,” the former City Councilman said via phone from Washington. “It’s a very good package considering it had to be negotiated in two houses of Congress and across party lines.” No Republicans voted for the bill, officially HR 1, and McMahon had an explanation. “The tax cuts in this bill are not for the rich, but for the middle class,” he said. “The stimulus invests in schools, highway and road construction and, most important, mass transit. The vision here, for the first time, is to have the federal government invest in mass transit, as it should.” McMahon, who succeeded scandal-tarred Rep. Vito Fossella to become the first Democrat to hold the Staten Island-Brooklyn seat in decades, said the transit funding bore some of his fingerprints.



Mike McMahon

“It was my amendment that added \$3 billion for transit to the original House package, which brought it up to \$10 billion,” he said. “The Senate scaled it back to \$8 billion, but there’s still \$1.2 billion that will be coming to New York.” McMahon said his priority for that money would be renovating B and M line stations in Bensonhurst, a plan mixed by the MTA last year — and not funnel the money to Bruce Ratner to jumpstart the stalled Atlantic Yards project. “The priority is fixing train stations and getting ferry service from Bay Ridge to Manhattan,” he said. “I do not see Atlantic Yards as a priority for the money from this package.”

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Hard-partying grandma hits 100

Shirley Juris is 100! This former tumbourine shaker, nightclub dancer, factory worker, hard-partier and mother hit the century mark last week at her home in the Palm Gardens Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation in Kensington. "It's been 100

CHECKIN' IN WITH...

Brooklyn Paper: What's it like to be 100?

SJ: First of all, I thank God because I never expected to reach 100! All my brothers and sisters are gone, and I wonder why I was the one chosen to outlive them. When I was young,

I thought I would be lucky to reach 60!

BP: Any tips?

SJ: I watched my diet. Well, not all the time, let's say 75 percent of the time. And I stopped wearing makeup when I was 20 years old. A natural face is better. And

years of trouble!" she said. After celebrating the milestone, she checked in with one of The Brooklyn Paper's youngest writers, Aisha Gawad, and talked about living for the entirety of the so-called "American Century."

now people say I don't have that many wrinkles. I also lived a very active life. I was always running somewhere, jumping, climbing.

BP: Wait a second, climbing?

SJ: I took a class in rope-climbing. I enjoyed life through activity. And you know, my mother's sister also lived to 100, so maybe there's something in the family.

BP: Did you ever have any brushes with fame?

SJ: Well, there was this nightclub on the East Side and one day, they started advertising for girls to sing "California Here I Come," and shake a tambourine. They were looking for 16-year-olds. One of my girlfriends convinced me to go even though I was only 15. Oh, and how I hated a lie! But to keep my friend happy, I went and they took me. Then they asked to take a picture of only me and they put it in a glass case next to a photo of the director. My brother saw it one day and started yelling, "My sister is an actress!" I wasn't an actress, of course, it was just a picture, but it was an honor. It made me feel important at the time, I wanted to live it up and it was wonderful!

BP: What about brushes with death?

SJ: When I was 15, I was dragged by a train. The



Shirley Juris — a former follies dancer and party girl — celebrated her 100th birthday at her Kensington nursing home on Thursday night.

conductor shut the door on my leg while the rest of my body was still on the platform and he started to drag me. The screams of the other women on the platform was the only thing that saved me. I ran home and licked my wounds like a dog and didn't tell my mother, but I still have the scar. And there was another time when I was almost burned to death. I was wearing an organdy dress and it caught on fire from the stove. I had third-degree burns! But then Mitch Parish's mother saved me — he was this fellow who wrote the lyrics for Broadway shows — she smelled the smoke, realized there was a fire and came and saved me. If it wasn't for her, I wouldn't be here. And oh,

was she beautiful! She looked like a Scotch lassie — red hair and green eyes — you would never guess she was Jewish. Imagine that, having your life saved by Mitch Parish's mother!

BP: Forgive me. Who's Mitch Parish?

SJ: Who's Mitch Parish? He wrote the lyrics for "Stardust" in 1929.

BP: Oh, OK. You said your life has been 100 years of trouble. What do you mean?

SJ: Well, it hasn't always been easy. My brother went missing in World War II. He was in the Air Force, and his plane was shot down by the Japanese over the Pacific. He was only 24, and one of the best

characters I ever met. And then my sister died when she was 28, and that was really tough, too. I am very happy to have lived this long, but I went through hell for some of it.

BP: Did you enjoy your 100th birthday?

SJ: My daughter-in-law gave me a tiara. A tiara, can you believe it? I looked like a queen! My grand-daughter played the flute for us and she was dancing while she played and I yelled out: "Shake it, don't break it!" She looked like a nightclub dancer!

BP: Maybe some things run in the family.

SJ: [Laughs] Oh, I don't know about that, but she did look marvelous!



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CRAPPER...

Continued from page 1

that the city has nothing to do with maintaining the units; that job falls to Cemus, the Spanish company that has the franchise to install, operate and maintain the toilets.

"The great thing about the franchise deal with Cemus is that they're required to install and maintain them," McKenna added. "They do an excellent job."

The company pays for the units and their maintenance by selling advertising on them, and on bus shelters and newsstands that are also

part of the street furniture franchise.

But toilets in and around public parks do not have advertising on them.

Eventually, McKenna said, there will be 20 pay toilets throughout the city — the culmination of an aching public process that dates back to a single French-made, self-cleaning toilet installed as a test in City Hall Park in 1992.

The other Brooklyn site being considered for one of the 12-foot-by-seven-foot units is in Downtown's Columbus Park, near the courthouses

and Borough Hall. Unlike the Grand Army Plaza site, that site has not yet been scheduled for a community board hearing.

Community Board 9 is expected to approve of the Grand Army Plaza toilet, which would actually be installed about 20 feet south of the circle on Flatbush Avenue, opposite the library.

But the board is also expected to hear about a toilet in Grand Army Plaza at its next meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 7 pm, at MS 61 [400 Empire Blvd. at Clove Road in Crown Heights, (718) 778-9279].

After all, what is more personal than the business one does in private?

"As long as they keep it clean, I'm not against it," said Joan Tobias, a Park Sloper who was walking her dog on Tuesday. "I'd be willing to pay even a one dollar fee, as long as it's clean."

In case her emphasis was not clear, she repeated it.

"If it's kept clean, I'm OK with it," she added.

Community Board 9 will discuss the putting a toilet in Grand Army Plaza at its next meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 7 pm, at MS 61 [400 Empire Blvd. at Clove Road in Crown Heights, (718) 778-9279].

— with Evan Gardner

WINERY...

Continued from page 1

that were "maturing nicely" — like a buttery Chardonnay and an herbal Cabernet Franc — as well as rebellious wines that were the equivalent of "a teenager with a nose-ring," including a Gewürztraminer with hints of Asian spices.

In the early phase of production, some grapes were punched down by hand in barrels four times a day — the ancient way — while others were put in controlled tanks where waters pumped over the grapes performs the same function. This relatively new technique is still a divisive issue among the cognoscenti.

"The only thing that premium producers agree on

is the need for gentle handling," Snyder said, a Geritson Beach native.

Across the street from the oenophiles are the beer-makers at Sixpoint Craft Ales, creating a micro brewers' row smack in the heart of Red Hook.

"This neighborhood is the last outpost for creative, industrial production in New York," Snyder said.

The first cases of bottled wine will hit the market in late spring or early summer, Snyder said. The dealer says they don't have a price range in mind yet.

"We want to let the wines become what they are and then determine a price."

Amendment to Bankruptcy Petition Saved Millions!

Based upon the brother's good credit, his sister bought a house in Queens in his name. At some point, she was unable to keep up with the mortgage payments and the house fell into foreclosure.

On the eve of the foreclosure sale, the brother filed bankruptcy to "stay" the sale. In the mad rush to save her family home (which, unfortunately, is common these days), the brother did not understand something very important: the personal injury lawsuit he filed years earlier, relating to a construction work-site injury in which he was severely injured, was an "asset" of his to be listed in his bankruptcy petition. Unfortunately, the Chapter 13 bankruptcy case was dismissed because the brother could not make the mortgage or bankruptcy plan payments. The house was later sold at foreclosure sale.

State Court Motion to Dismiss Personal Injury Lawsuit:

Subsequently, the defendants in the state court personal injury case asked the judge to dismiss the case based upon the failure of the injured person to list the pending lawsuit as a "contingent asset" in his bankruptcy petition. Substantial New York case law, going all the way up to the New York State Court of Appeals, has held that the failure to list the asset in the petition is fatal to the continuance of the personal injury case - every case on point says the injured person's lawsuit gets dismissed without any recovery, no matter how grave the injury.

Uncharted Course Taken:

Faced with this apparently insurmountable challenge, Richard A. Klass, Your Court Street Lawyer, was brought in to help save the man's personal injury case. His strategy: return to the Bankruptcy Court to seek to amend the petition to reflect the existence of the personal injury claim. This was trail-blazing!

In determining that the debtor/personal injury plaintiff should be permitted to amend his bankruptcy petition to list the claim as an asset, Chief Bankruptcy Judge Craig stated: "This Court has not found any statute, rule or precedent that provides that a debtor's right to amend expires upon dismissal of the case, or that the order

dismissing the case must be vacated before schedules, statements or lists may be amended."

Interplay between "Closed" and "Closed":

At first glance, the court noted that the bankruptcy case was marked "closed." The judge was skeptical that an amendment to the petition could be made because Bankruptcy Rule 1009 provides that "a voluntary petition, list, schedule, or statement may be amended by the debtor as a matter of course at any time before the case is closed."

However, in relying upon the decision in In re Critical Care Support Services, 236 BR 137, it was pointed out that a case can only be "closed" when the assets of the bankruptcy estate have been fully administered. The term "closed," as used in Bankruptcy Rule 1009 and Bankruptcy Code §350, does not encompass "dismissed" cases. Thus, an Order dismissing a case accomplishes a completely different result than an Order closing it would; essentially, upon dismissal of a bankruptcy case, all of the debtor's rights in his property revert back to him.

Separately, the court also held that, as part of accepting the debtor's amendment, it could reject the amendment when "the facts and circumstances presented indicate that the amendment was filed in bad faith, fraudulent or prejudicial." In this case, Judge Craig held that there was no evidence of bad faith, fraud or prejudice; the state court defendants' argument that granting the amendment would "reward" the debtor was not persuasive. In the absence of any evidence that the debtor deliberately omitted the personal injury claim from his schedules to defraud his creditors, permitting the debtor to amend did not reward wrongdoing.

After Judge Craig granted the debtor's motion to amend his bankruptcy petition, the state court defendants in the personal injury lawsuit withdrew their motion to dismiss the case. The plaintiff's case is now winding through the New York State Supreme Court towards a trial, in which his serious injuries will be considered by a jury.

— Richard A. Klass, Esq.

Richard A. Klass, Esq., maintains a law firm engaged in civil litigation at 16 Court Street, 29th Floor, Brooklyn Heights, New York. He may be reached by phone at (718) COURT-ST or e-mail at RichKlass@CourtStreetLaw.com with any questions. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

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THE stoop
NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

GREENPOINT

Gunman wreaks havoc

4By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

More than a dozen gunshots turned a quiet Greenpoint corner into a combat zone early on Feb. 14, with bullets smashing car windows, tearing through residences, and leaving a 20-year-old woman bleeding on the street.

One bullet from the salvo — which erupted at the corner of Franklin Street and Kent Avenue at around 3:22 am — pierced the victim's thigh, while another grazed her head, said cops, who recovered 16 shell casings at the scene.

The victim, who was treated at Elmhurst Hospital, was the only casualty in melee — but Patricia Sweeney was only a few inches shy of becoming the second.

Sweeney was sleeping in her daughter's Franklin Street home when the barrage erupted beneath her second-floor window.

"I awoke to an extraordinary cacophony of gunfire in rapid succession — it sounded like two different guns. Then I heard the windows smash," she said. "The trajectory of the bullet was about two feet above my head. It wound up gouging out the closet door and ended up on the closet shelf. The police pulled it out of a hat."

Sweeney ducked for cover as other shots decimated car windows, embedded themselves in brick walls and ric-



Hole lot of trouble: Patricia Sweeney shows the spot on her Franklin Street door, and in her baseball cap, where a bullet left its mark (circled).

ocheted around the lobbies of apartment buildings. After unleashing the volley, the shooter fled, cops said.

Neighbors claim that the shootout stemmed from an altercation inside of the movie-themed bar, the Production Lounge, which opened on Franklin Street in October.

But a bartender, who gave the name Tony, said his venue was actually a safe haven for bystanders fleeing the fire-

fight. "The shooter didn't come from our place," he said. "We had nothing to do with it. It was closing time and a bunch of people were leaving — then the shots went off and

a bunch of people come running back in."

The bar has turned over surveillance footage to police and there were no fights in the venue on the night of the shooting, Tony added.

"We didn't kick nobody out — there wasn't a fight here at all," he said. "No matter what night you have going on, there's going to be a little skirmish here and there, but we haven't had a fight inside this place since we opened."

Police have linked the bar to the shooting.

"There appears to have been an altercation of some kind [inside the bar]," said 94th Precinct commanding

officer Dennis Fulton. "The investigation is ongoing."

That was enough for neighbors, who filled a 94th Precinct Community Council meeting on Tuesday night, to suggest that they won't feel happy — or safe — until the bar closes down.

"We need it to close," said Sweeney. "My daughter is determined she is moving unless this club closes. She has a 2-year-old child here — she can't risk it."

Over the summer, Greenpoint residents mounted a campaign to close the Banker Street disco Studio B, which they deemed a nuisance bar. The venue continues to operate.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

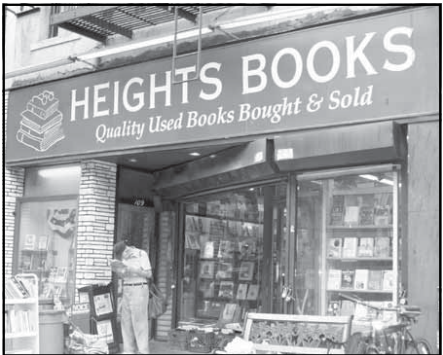
Bookstore going to Smith

By Aisha Gawad
for The Brooklyn Paper

The writing on the wall — "Building sold!" — scared some book lovers, but the good news is that Heights Books will live on.

The five-story building at 109 Montague St., between Hicks and Henry streets, sold this week for \$3.7 million, but the 18-year-old bookseller has some good news of its own: it's moving to Smith Street in nearby Cobble Hill next month.

"My preference was to stay in the Heights, but the new space is nicer," said co-owner Tracy Walsch, citing



The building housing Heights Books on Montague Street has been sold — but the store will reopen.

a leaky roof, among other shortcomings of the current location.

The new shop will be at 120 Smith St., near Dean Street.

Walsch said she loves the new location. She'd love it even better if the economy would only play along.

"In this market, it's tough. Retail sales are down, and moving is expensive," she said.

The store will retain its Brooklyn Heights-centric name, despite its new neighborhood. Walsch said the move is not out of loyalty, but merely to maintain continuity for her online buyers.

BAY RIDGE

'Angels' in the classroom

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Call it the second coming.

A Bay Ridge Catholic school that was slated to close this spring will reopen in the fall with a new name and new leadership.

The Our Lady of Angels school was on a list of six Catholic schools that the Diocese of Brooklyn planned to shut down — but after protests from parents and a proposal by educators to implement a new organizational structure, officials decided to allow the school to be resurrected in September as the Holy Angels Academy.

When it reopens, the 74th Street school will distance itself from the Our Lady of Angels parish by introducing a board of directors comprised of lay people who will make some financial and administrative decisions.

"It will still be a Catholic school, but there will be a change in governance," said Principal Rosemarie McGoldrick.

Current students at the pre-kindergarten to eighth grade school will be welcomed to attend the new academy, and the tuition will remain near the \$3,700 that parents already pay, McGoldrick said.

With declining enrollment at some parish schools placing a growing burden on the parishes themselves, all Brooklyn Catholic schools are scheduled to be converted into such academies within five years, according to Father Kieran Harrington, a spokesman for the diocese.

"We want our priests to be priests — not the guy running the school's daily operations. We want our principals to be focusing on the quality of the education — not worrying about leaking roofs," he said. "It's going to make the

diocese stronger because it's going to put the people who have competence in each area responsible for their area of competency."

Even though Our Lady of Angels teachers face the prospect of losing their jobs during the conversion from parish school to academy, morale is high among faculty according to the principal.

"Change is not easy, but we are very positive about it," McGoldrick said. "This is not about whether or not we hire people back. It's about having the best school you can for the children."

Parents are equally pleased.

"This is fantastic news," said Rachel Connolly, a mother of a kindergartner and a third grader and president the parent's association. "Our school will stay open and we can only go forward towards a bright future. I'm hopeful for the best."

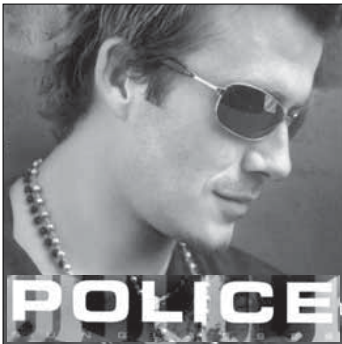
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Thieves looking at mirrors

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope

What's with those Mercedes Benz side mirrors? Thieves swiped the essential driver's aid off the doors of three of the luxury German sedans last week.

In the first case, a man told cops that he had parked his 2001 E320 on First Street between Fifth and Sixth avenues on Feb. 5. When he returned two days later, the mirrors were gone.

Then, two mirrors were swiped off of another E320, this one a 2000 model, that had been parked on Prospect Park West, between First and Second streets, on Feb. 8 at around 8:30 pm. The owner discovered the crime 10 hours later.

In the final swipe, a thief hit a Mercedes that had been parked on Fourth Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues on Feb. 12 at around 11 pm. By the next afternoon, the mirrors were gone.

In all three cases, the lenses were valued at more than \$2,000. That's some ritzy glass.

Butler did it

A thug bashed a woman on Butler Street on Feb. 10, knocking her to the ground and stealing her gym bag — but he didn't get far before cops nabbed him.

In the horrific, 9 pm attack, the 42-year-old perp sneaked up on his 26-year-old victim from behind as she was just about to her front door just east of Fourth Avenue.

Squeezing her tightly in his repulsive arms, he said,

POLICE BLOTTER

Find more online every Wednesday at BrooklynPaper.com/blotter

"Give me all your stuff."

He didn't wait for a clear answer before he pushed her to the ground and took two bags from her — one containing various gym garb, the other containing a pair of Rollerblades.

Police later picked up their suspect in a canvas of the area. How did they surmise that they had the right man? He had all the victim's stuff still on him.

— Gersh Kuntzman

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene—Clinton Hill

Foul mouth

A foul-mouthed felon wrested an iPhone from the hand of a pedestrian on Feb. 9, but his loud mouth was soon silenced by cops.

The victim told police that she was walking near the corner of Fulton and South Oxford streets at 2:35 pm when a man approached her, repeatedly yelling, "Give me that f—ing phone!"

He grabbed the popular device from her hand, but didn't get very far; cops picked him up, allegedly with the stolen phone still in his pocket.

2-to-1

It took two grown men and a gun to steal an iPhone from a 32-year old woman on Feb. 9.

The woman told cops that she was walking home on the corner of South Portland and DeKalb avenues at 8:30 pm, when the two men approached her. One drew a gun and said, "Give it up," while the second pushed her to the ground and grappled her phone.

Both of the cowardly muggers then ran off.

OMG! Im rbbed!

A 16-year old mugger stole a phone from a 17-year old kid who was texting his mother on Feb. 10.

The victim told cops that he was standing at the corner of Waverly and Greene avenues with a friend at 5:25 pm when another kid walked up and demanded the teen's Sidekick. The thief then snatched the phone and ran.

Kids these days

A 17-year old kid used threats of force to steal a cellphone from an 11-year old on Feb. 13.

Cops talked to the young victim's mother, who told them that her son was walking home from the subway on the corner of Clinton and Atlantic avenues when, at 3:15 pm, the mugger approached him and threatened to punch him.

The frightened tween handed his gold-colored BlackBerry over to the thief.

— Evan Gardner

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights—DUMBO Boerum Hill—Downtown

Court disorder

An attorney's coat — with \$1,500 in the pocket — was stolen off a bench inside the criminal courthouse on Schermerhorn Street on Feb. 8.

The victim told cops that he left the jacket in what he thought was a secure location — the inside of the courthouse between Smith Street and Boerum Place — at around 3:30 pm.

But when he returned one hour later, the coat was gone. He lost some ID cards and the cash, which included a two-dollar bill.

Passing notes

A note-passing bank robber got away with more than \$700 from a Montague Street branch on Feb. 13.

Cops say that the perp approached a teller at around 12:50 pm and presented a note that said, "This is not a joke. I have a gun. You have 60 seconds."

The teller passed \$729 to the criminal, who asked for the note back and fled on foot from the bank, between Court and Clinton streets.

Old lady bagged

Pernicious thieves duped a 72-year-old woman into handing over \$11,800 on Feb. 9, the latest example of the ol' switcheroo.

In what for years has been a Police Blotter staple, a woman approached her unwitting dupe in a 99 cent store

on Hoyt Street between Livingston and Fulton streets at around 11 am.

She claimed to have found cash and checks that she would share with the victim — provided that the old lady put up some money of her own. The old woman agreed and got into the perp's car, where two other women and man were waiting.

The fearsome foursome took the victim home, where she grabbed \$5,800, then to a bank where she withdrew \$6,000 more. She gave it all to the lady larcenist, who then sped off.

— Emilia Brock

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint—Williamsburg

Tongue twisted

Two pierced molls ransacked a 27-year-old woman's Lorimer Street apartment after she invited them to her home after a night at the bar.

The bad gals — whom cops said both sported tongue rings — met the victim on Feb. 10 at the Lazy Catfish, which, as readers of The Brooklyn Paper well know, serves free Pabst Blue Ribbon on Tuesday nights.

When the trio arrived at the victim's apartment, which is between Jackson Street and Skillman Avenue, at around 4 am, the resident went to bed and the guests grabbed her cash, guitar and debit card before she awoke at 7 am, cops said.

Van scammed

Two gunslingers held up a food vender who was hawkling lunchtime grub from a van at the corner of Berry and North

11th streets on Feb. 9.

The robbers — each armed with a black handgun — confronted the merchant at around 12:30 pm and demanded cash.

The 48-year-old vender forked over \$500 and jewelry, and the thieves fled in a green Ford Explorer with Florida plate, cops said.

Stick-up!

Two armed thugs held up a 21-year-old at the corner of Roebling and North 10th Street on Feb. 13 — then mugged another victim just blocks away.

The crooks targeted their first mark at around 1 am, pointing a gun at the victim and demanding his stuff.

They made off with his cash, phone, laptop, and clothing.

The thugs fled down Roebling Street, where they forced another victim to empty his pockets and fork over a cellphone and \$50.

Huff & Puff

Cops nabbed two suspected iPhone thieves who were too out of shape to make a getaway on Feb. 10.

The alleged crooks, aged 16 and 17, pried an iPhone from a 20-year-old's grasp at the corner of Bedford Avenue and North Seventh Street — but the victim chased.

The thieves grew tired, so they resorted to threats.

"Don't touch me or I will shoot you," one of the thugs warned when the victim finally caught up to them.

Cops locked up both suspects before they could shoot — or escape with the phone.

— Ben Muessig

90TH PRECINCT

Williamsburg—Bushwick

Bad service

A hooligan roughhoused a 15-year-old and grabbed his cellphone on Feb. 12.

The crook confronted the teenaged victim on Grand Street between Humboldt Street and Bushwick Avenue at around 4 pm and asked him whether he was carrying any valuables.

The victim said no, and the crook turned violent.

"Let me see — empty your pockets," the crook demanded before shoving the victim against a car and removing the flashy phone.

— Ben Muessig

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens—Cobble Hill—Red Hook

A good collar

A cop from the 76th Precinct chased down two thugs who had just bashed and robbed an senior on Bond Street, nabbing both of the bandits after on Feb. 12.

The incident began at around 9:30 am when the two perps beat up and mugged a 65-year-old man as he left a parking garage between Union and President streets. The thieves fled west on President Street with his wallet — and the \$2,400 inside it.

But Officer Oliver Lopez caught the two, age 21 and 18.

— Gersh Kuntzman



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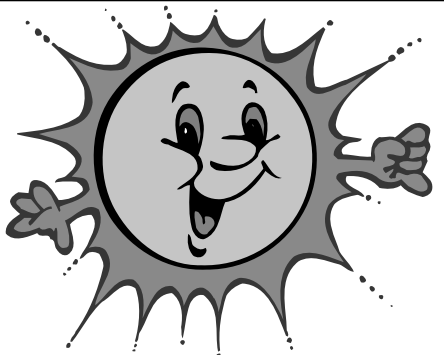
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274 Garfield Place, Park Slope, (718) 768-3814, ext. 210, congregationbethelohim.org

Elementary Division
Director: Bobbie Finkelstein
June 30 to Aug 15
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Extended hours: 8 am-6 pm
Activities: Swimming (instructional and recreational), arts and crafts, music, nature, sports, gymnastics, circus arts, trips 2 days per week

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Director: Bobbie Finkelstein
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Bucks County, PA, (610) 847-5858, camponas.org

Director: Sue Neiger Gould, friends@camponas.org
Ages: 8-13
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Extended hours: 8 am-6 pm
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Activities: storytelling, cooking, water and outdoor play on rooftop playground, arts and crafts, movement/yoga, science, local trips to zoo, puppetshows, sessions

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Director: Ronny Schindler
Ages: entering pre-K-9
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Full day: 8 am-4 pm, early dismissal optional for young kids. Extended hours to 6:30 pm

Transportation: Free morning shuttle from most Brownstone Brooklyn and Bay Ridge
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See CAMPS on page 6

THE BROOKLYN PAPER'S 2009 CAMP GUIDE

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PARENT

OSFO gets the last, fiesty word

Last week, the Oh So Feisty One told Smartmom that she can write about her anytime she wants. Phew.

Smartmom felt vindicated — and relieved.

This came after weeks of turbulence that began when OSFO and Teen Spirit told Smartmom that they were sick and tired of being the subject of her column.

Naturally, Smartmom wrote about it and her readers weighed in, mostly with nasty rants:

- Some said she was exploiting her children.
- Some said that she was a terrible parent.
- Some said that her kids were going to need years of therapy.

Smartmom knew not to have a nervous breakdown about all this negative criticism — a Herculean effort no doubt. And she tried to be strong — also a difficult proposition.

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A8

But she couldn't help feeling bugged big time. She knew that there were plenty of people out there who didn't bother to write in because they like the column the way it is.

For instance, why no public comment from Divorce Diva, who felt so bad about the nasty comments on BrooklynPaper.com that she even called to offer sympathy to Smartmom?

Couldn't she have typed up a nice little note of support on the Web site? Hello?

How about Smartmom's other friends and neighbors? Quite a few people stopped her on the street or wrote e-mails to tell her that they thought the negativity was over the top and a tad ridiculous.

But how many of them took the time to type in a few words of affirmation to The Brooklyn Paper?

Not one as far as she knows (though she is grateful for the people who had positive things to say).

Most of all, she felt bad about OSFO and Teen Spirit's reservations. Who wouldn't?

While she knew in her heart of hearts that she wasn't doing anything wrong, if they really wanted to be left alone she would have to leave them alone.

This caused much writerly agitation. What was Smartmom going to write about?



By Louise Crawford

Sure, Smartmom considered inventing a new family. She even came up with their names: Zebulon, Jasper and Phoebe.

But that went nowhere. Sure, she knew she could still write about Hepcat, Diaper Diva, Divorce Diva, Mrs. Cleavage, Mrs. Kravitz, Best and Oldest and Gluten Free, who have given her permission to write about them and seem to enjoy it (Smartmom hopes).

But they're grown-ups and this is a parenting column.

Smartmom even got defensive (so what else is new?). She lashed out at her readers and asked them to imagine a gag order on all kidtalk in Park Slope. Try not saying even one word about your little darlings, she wrote nastily.

But then something happened.

OSFO changed her mind and she went public on The

Brooklyn Paper Web site. OSFO speaks.

She didn't tell Smartmom at first. But then she wanted Smartmom to know that she was going to bat for her mom —

and that she was annoyed at what people were saying. And no surprise, she was bold and feisty about it:

"Get your own problems," OSFO wrote. "I gave her permission to right (sic) about me!!!! Then I took it away. Now I gave it back!!!! Take that, suckers!"

Then OSFO went to town in her inimitable prose.

"The only problem with this column is the readers!!!!!!!"

Later she wrote: "Don't like it, don't read it."

And: "You're going to need years of therapy."

Smartmom really loved that one. Later, in response to someone who questioned Smartmom's use of the English language, OSFO wrote: "This is the language of a kind, loving, proud person... a language u wouldn't understand!!!!"

That comment stopped Smartmom short. She lost

her breath. It brought small, salty tears to her eyes.

When she saw it, she and OSFO were sitting in the dining room eating cinnamon toast. She felt a warm wave of mother love.

"Do you want some more cinnamon toast?" she asked and immediately popped two more pieces of white bread into the toaster.

Later, a wise reader wrote in to say,

"Well, if everyone gets to mouth off, it's only fair that the subject matter (OSFO) get in her two cents as well. In fact, she's one of the few people who have actually addressed the topic — 'Is it OK to write about the kids?' — instead of venting irrelevant blablah."

To which OSFO wrote: "FYI!!!!!! I love the name OSFO."

Smartmom beamed with pride.

Not just because OSFO defended her mom and loved her moniker.

Not just because OSFO is a confident and secure young woman who feels comfortable in her own skin.

Not just because OSFO is one awesome person.

Smartmom beamed because she was proud to be her mom. And that made her all tingly inside.

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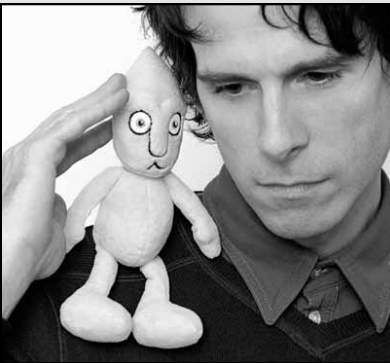
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FAMILY CALENDAR



Amie Schickler

FOR THE KIDS: Gustafer Yellowgold (he's the guy on the left) will be playing Southpaw as part of the Park Slope Parents kids concert series on Feb. 22.

SAT, FEB. 21

11:30 am-12:30 pm: African-American quilting stories. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklynkids.org.

11:30 am and 3 pm: Learn about civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks. Brooklyn Children's Museum. See venue info above.

11:30 am and 3 pm: Science Investigators Club examines African-American inventor Granville Woods. Brooklyn Children's Museum. See venue info above.

Noon-4 pm: Winter Festival. Lefferts Historic House [Enter park at Flatbush and Ocean avenues. in Prospect Park], www.prospectpark.org/visit/places/lefferts.

12:30 and 2:30 pm: Puppet show, "Sleeping Beauty." \$9 (\$7 kids). Puppetworks [338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-3391], puppetworks.org.

SUN, FEB. 22

Noon-4 pm: Winter Festival. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

12:30 and 2:30 pm: "Sleeping Beauty." See Saturday, Feb. 21.

1-4 pm: Bouncy castle, kid's music/videos, educational entertainment and snacks. \$10. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebell-house.com.

1-3 pm: Nature Crafts. Free. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400], www.prospectpark.org/audubon.

2 pm: Learn how plants are used in fabrics and dyes. Brooklyn Botanic Garden [1000 Washington Ave., at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7220], www.bbg.org.

2 pm: Kids concert with

Gustafer Yellowgold. \$12. Southpaw [125 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place in Park Slope, (718) 230-0236], www.spsounds.com.

6 pm: BINGO/Board games. Moxie Spot [81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710], themoxiespot.com.

MON, FEB. 23

11:30 am: Storytime. Free. Moxie Spot. See venue info above.

4 pm: Movie, "Gulliver's Travels." Animated. \$6.50. Cobble Hill Cinemas [265 Court St. at Butler Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 624-3748], bigmoviesforlittle-kids.blogspot.com.

TUES, FEB. 24

11 am: Sing Along with Lloyd Miller. Free. Moxie Spot. See venue info above.

WED, FEB. 25

1 pm: Storytime. Free. Moxie Spot. See venue info above.

FRI, FEB. 27

10:30 am: BAX Family Fridays. Movies for wee ones. \$20 per family. Brooklyn Arts Exchange [421 Fifth Ave. at Eighth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-0018], www.bax.org.

11:30 am: Storytime. Free. Moxie Spot. See venue info above.

SAT, FEB. 28

11 am and 2 pm: Paper Bag Players. Short musical plays with live music, drawings and lots of participation. \$15. Kumble Theater [Long Island University, 1 University Plaza at Wiloughby Street in Downtown, (718) 488-1624], www.brooklyn.liu.edu/KumbleTheater.

Noon-12:30 pm: Quilting stuff. Brooklyn Children's Museum. See venue info above.

12:30 and 2:30 pm: "Sleeping Beauty." See Saturday, Feb. 21.

1-3 pm: Nature Crafts. See Sunday, Feb. 22.

To list your event, fill out the form at www.brooklynpaper.com/sections/go/events/submit

CAMPS...

Continued from page 5

Poly Prep Summer 2009

OPEN HOUSE: Saturday, April 4, 9 am-noon

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

February 21, 2009

Fun 'House'

St. Ann's quirky remake of Ibsen classic is pure joy

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Metaphors can be pinpricks or suckerpunches — and if you prefer your literary devices to leave you dazed, bruised, and bloodied, then hurry to St. Ann's Warehouse to see a garish and absolutely stunning take on Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll's House."

In a blunt reworking of the patriarchal gender roles of the Norwegian writer's feminist masterwork, the experimental theater troupe Mabou Mines stages its "Dollhouse" entirely within a dollhouse where only the male leads — who are all played by little people — can fit.

Despite being the only regular-sized actors on stage, the female characters — who are treated like playthings by the diminutive dudes — are the ones that are out of place.

The heavy-handed metaphor is just one of director Lee Breuer's many liberal reinterpretations of Ibsen's play — like the introduction of musical numbers, puppetry, and the near-constant shattering of the fourth wall — but it stands out as the single most affecting change, as it continually forces the audience to realize that Ibsen's society was not made for women.

And throughout the two-act romp, the audience has the pleasure of watching Nora Helmer (marvelously played by Maude Mitchell) come to the same conclusion.

In order to save the life of her husband Torvald (Mark Povinelli), Nora has committed forgery to borrow money from the conniving Krogstad (Kristopher Medina) — an employee at her husband's bank. Nora must hide her debt from her self-important husband because the revelation that his whimsical, "featherbrained" wife took responsibility — and committed a crime — would shatter his world.

"Torvald is a very proud man," Nora explains. "He would be humiliated to know that he owed anything to me. But I might tell him someday perhaps when I'm not so pretty."

To make matters worse, Krogstad threatens to expose Nora if she can't convince

THEATER

"Mabou Mines Dollhouse" runs through March 8 at St. Ann's Warehouse (38 Water St. between Main and Dock streets in DUMBO, (718) 254-8779). Tickets: \$35 to \$55.



Lean on him: Nora (Maude Mitchell) takes comfort on the back of Dr. Rank (Ricardo Gil) in "Mabou Mines Dollhouse," the riotous (and little-person-filled) take on Ibsen's "A Doll's House" at St. Ann's Warehouse through March 8.

her husband to keep him employed.

The play follows the tumultuous unraveling of Nora's secret and the flare-ups between a husband who considers his wife to be a flesh-and-blood Barbie, and a wife who growing to realize that her love for her husband is nothing more than make-believe.

But this dramatic arc plays out more like a comedy than a tragedy. There are kitschy fake accents ("joy" is pronounced "joyy"), crude sexual innuendos, and cruder

onstage sex acts.

At any point when the audience is ready to forget the wee size of the male characters — who range from 40- to 53-inches tall — the actors emphasize their short stature with face-to-face conversations with kneeling women, and awkward love scenes where they are tossed around like footballs.

In one instance, Torvald himself seems to be onto the sight gag.

"Small? You think I'm small?" the pint-sized Torvald shouts at his obedient wife,

who towers above him. "You called my reasons small, therefore I must be just that. Small."

But when the curtain falls, "Dollhouse" is more than a brazen frolic — it's a hard-hitting work that remains packed with social commentary.

Comparing "Dollhouse" to Ibsen's original is like contrasting Greco-Roman wrestling with the WWE, but at the end of the day we all know which one is more entertaining.



Cameron Wittig

No masking this

Fresh from last year's new album, "Walk It Off," the Minneapolis-based quartet Tapes 'n Tapes will slam into Brooklyn with its hard-driving drum-backed twangy indie rock sound for a must-see concert at the Music Hall of Williamsburg on Thursday, Feb. 26.

Tapes 'n Tapes albums typically sound more like a recorded live performance than something crafted in a canned studio — and when the band performs live, audiences get a rare treat.

"When we play live, a lot of nuances do come out," said

singer and guitarist Josh Grier. "We explore different places that the songs can go every night. The songs might be different because we're in a different mood. Otherwise it gets a little boring."

Another way to keep it interesting is having a different band member draw up the set list every night.

"We generally try to have a pretty even mix of old songs and the new ones," he said. "It keeps all of us excited and on our toes."

But Grier promised that some classics, like "The Dirty Dirty"

and "Insistor," which epitomizes the band's fast-paced drum and guitar interplay, are always on the playlist — and both feature Grier's drawl, which sounds like a beautiful, dejected lullaby. It's a perfect counterpoint to the band's bottom-heavy sound.

Tapes 'n Tapes at the Music Hall of Williamsburg [66 N. Sixth St. between Wythe and Kent avenues (718) 486-5400] at 9 pm on Thursday, Feb. 26. Tickets \$18. For info, visit www.musicallofwilliamsburg.com.

— Emilia Brock

SPORTS

Smash hits

Borough fight fans will get a ringside seat at the most-famous amateur boxing competition in the country.

The Brooklyn Masonic Temple will host two of the preliminary rounds of the 82nd annual Golden Gloves slugfest, with one round taking place inside of the Clermont Avenue landmark on Tuesday, Feb. 24, and the second to follow a week later.

The opening bell rang on the competition on Jan. 28, starting 10 weeks of preliminaries that feature more than 900 men and women beating each other up in advance of the April 13 finals.

DUMBO's Gleason's Gym is sponsoring the two fight nights, and will send several of its own contenders inside the squared circle, said owner Bruce Silverglade (pictured).

Silverglade said the goal is to make Brooklyn a "one stop-shop for boxers and boxing fans alike."

Golden Gloves Boxing, Tuesdays, Feb. 24 and March 3, 7 pm at the Brooklyn Masonic Temple [317 Clermont Ave. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 797-2872]. Tickets, \$25.

— Emily Lavin

MUSIC

Welsh out

The singer-songwriter behind the most memorable pop hit of her generation will play an intimate, acoustic performance at Southpaw on Sunday, Feb. 22.

Donna Lewis, the Welsh rarebit who conquered the charts in 1996 with the smash, "I Love You Always Forever," is the marquee name on this week's installment of the "Acoustically Related" concert series.

"It's going to be really stripped down — just piano and vocals," the siren said by phone from her Woodstock roost.

Lewis said she's tinkered with the melody of her certified-gold success, which would've been Number 1 on the charts were it not for a little ditty called the "Macarena."

"I do it in a highly different way, because the chorus was such a nursery-school rhyme," she said.

We won't hear such talk. To us, "I Love You Always Forever" will always forever be the summer of '96 driving down to the Jersey shore with a girlfriend who always wanted to play chick music. Lewis's song was the only one we didn't want to fast forward. And it's true to this day. There, we said it.

Donna Lewis, Sunday, Feb. 22 at Southpaw [125 Fifth Ave., between Sterling and St. Johns places, (718) 230-0236], 7 pm. Tickets, \$10.

— Mike McLaughlin

NIGHTLIFE

Soft cell

Finally, a tribute to "Yacht Rock!"

This under-appreciated corner of the music universe — the easy-going rock of the 1970s and '80s — will anchor for a tribute show and karaoke night at the Bell House on Friday, Feb. 27.

Before the off-key crooning starts, comic J.D. Ryznar will show episodes from his seminal video series, "Yacht Rock," which goes behind the Muzak.

Ryznar plays Doobie Brothers star Michael McDonald in the sketches, despite looking nothing like the blue-eyed king of soul.

And that's all right with the real McDonald, who said the "hilarious" series is "uncannily" accurate. It also caught the attention of actor Jason Lee, who makes a guest appearance as Kevin Bacon and tricks "Loggins" into writing the theme for "Footloose."

After the screening, would-be singers can belt out tracks like "What a Fool Believes" or "I'm Alright."

But whatever you do, don't ask for Jimmy Buffett.

"Yacht rock is like champagne — and he's like toilet water," said Ryznar.

"Yacht Rock" at the Bell House [149 Seventh St., between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], Feb. 27 at 10 pm, \$10. For tickets, www.thebellhouse.com.

— Zeke Faux

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

MONDAY February 23



Nasty nude

Come join Brooklyn's greatest burlesque star, Nasty Canasta, as she celebrates her birthday — and pays homage to Neil Diamond. Canasta, along with several other randy pals, will dance a tribute to one of Kings County's other prodigal performers, the "Jewish Elvis" himself, in a show they call "The Jazz Stripper." And yes, there will be nudity.

10 pm. The Jazz Stripper. Public Assembly [70 North Sixth St., between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 384-4586]. \$10.

WEDNESDAY February 25

Show people

Have you ever wondered what it takes to get a muppet show on Broadway? How about a show about writing a musical? Well, now you can hear it straight from the horses' mouths as actors, writers, lyricists, and the creators of "Avenue Q" (pictured) and "[Title of Show]" join a panel discussion that will include impromptu songs and anecdotes from their experiences on the Great White Way.

7:30 pm. PS 107 [Eighth Ave. at 13th Street in Park Slope, (718) 330-9340]. \$15.



THURSDAY February 26

Two great readings
Tonight, you have two book events to choose from. In DUMBO, author Simon Rich (pictured) and Benjamin Nugent will read from their humorous works. Meanwhile in Brooklyn Heights, author Bill German will share his stories from the road with the Rolling Stones. Yes, those Rolling Stones.

7 pm. Simon Rich and Benjamin Nugent at powerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049]; Bill German at Barnes & Noble [106 Court St., between Livingston and State streets in Brooklyn Heights (718) 246-4996].

SATURDAY February 28

Good screen fun

It's time again for the Brooklyn Academy of Music's annual kids film festival — the event of the season for kids under 14 (and the adults who love them). But films (like "Amazon Jack: Jungo Goes Bananas," pictured) are only the half of it. There'll also be a performance by the Dan Zanes-esque Uncle Rock and a full slate of shorts, too.

10 am. BAMkids film festival at the Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave., between St. Felix Street and Ashland Place in Fort Greene (718) 636-4100]. \$11 for adults, \$5 for kids 13 and under. Also March 1.



SUNDAY March 1



Chew on it

Eat your way through Prospect Park with famed naturalist "Wildman" Steve Brill as he shows you which plants are edible, which are just plain old city park grass, and what kind of animal made what you just stepped in. Eating a twig and berries as you trek through Brooklyn's verdant fields might just leave you hungry for more.

11:45 am. Hunt for garlic mustard in Prospect Park. Grand Army Plaza entrance [Plaza St. West, between Prospect Park West and Flatbush Avenue in Park Slope, (914) 835-2153]. \$15, \$10 children under 12.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

SAT, FEB. 21

OUTDOORS AND TOURS
INTRODUCTION TO BIRDWATCHING: Free. Noon-1:30 pm. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400]. www.prospectpark.org/audubon.
DISCOVERY TOUR: Meet birds and other wildlife on this walk, guided by a naturalist. Free. 3-4 pm. Prospect Park Audubon Center (see venue info above).

PERFORMANCE
THEATER, "THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE!": Musical. \$18, \$14 seniors and students. 2 pm and 8 pm. Gallery Players [199 14th St., between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (212) 352-3101]. galleryplayers.com.

DANCE, LAVA: All-women dance company premieres "we become," a collaboration with singer-songwriter Toshi Reagon and visual artist Nancy Brooks Brody. \$20. 7 pm. Brooklyn Lyceum [227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816]. www.govanus.com.

MUSIC, THE RHAPSODY PLAYERS: Band performs songs of the '50s, '60s and '70s. Fundraiser for St. John's Senior Nutrition Program. Includes refreshments. \$25. 7 pm. St. John's Church [99th Street and Fort Hamilton Parkway in Bay Ridge, (718) 745-3660]. www.rhapsodyplayers.org.

THEATER, "THE WINTER'S TALE": Shakespeare's romance. Directed by Sam Mendes. \$30-\$90. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

THEATER, "FABULATION OR THE RE-EDUCATION OF UNDINE": Brave New World Repertory Theater's reading of play by Lynn Nottage. Playwright will stay for Q&A session. Refreshments served. \$18. 7:30 pm. Akwaaba Mansion [347 MacDonough St. between Stuyvesant and Lewis avenues in Bedford-Stuyvesant]. www.akwaaba.com/brooklyn.

DANCE BY JESSE PHILLIPS-FEIN, NAMI YAMAMOTO AND YASUKO YOKOSHI: Discussion with the artists follows each performance. \$15. 8 pm. Brooklyn Arts Exchange [421 Fifth Ave. at Eighth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-0018]. www.bax.org.



Viva 'Vivo': Catch Flamenco Vivo Carlota Santana at Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts on Feb. 22.

THEATER, "MABOU MINES DOLLHOUSE": Deconstructed version of "A Doll's House." \$35-\$55. 8 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse [38 Water St. at Dock Street in DUMBO, (718) 254-8779]. www.stannswarehouse.org.
JAZZ: Cedar Walton Trio and Octet. \$15-\$50. 8 pm. Kumble Theater, Long Island University [1 University Plaza at Willoughby Street in Downtown, (212) 209-3370]. www.bogn.org.
CLASSICAL MUSIC: Works by Haydn, Mozart and Schubert. \$35/\$20 students. 8 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083]. www.bargemusic.org.

SALES AND MARKETS
WINTER ANTIQUES MARKET: Free. 11 am-6 pm. [76 Front St. at Washington Street in DUMBO]. www.brooklynfllea.com.

SILENT AUCTION: "Heart Art" show. Party and raffles. (Silent auction begins Feb. 14.) 6-8 pm. DUMBO Arts Center [30 Washington St. between Plymouth and Water streets in DUMBO, (718) 694-0831]. www.dumboartscenter.org.

OTHER
TALK, "BODIES AND FACES": How artists use gestures and expressions in African and African American-related art. 11 am and 2 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000]. www.brooklynmuseum.org.

DISCUSSION, "BLACK MEN, LOVE, AND COMMUNITY": 2-4 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000]. www.brooklynmuseum.org.

FILM, "COMPLEXION": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 2 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

FILM, "PRINCE OF BROADWAY": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. Includes Q&A with director. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 4 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

FILM, "HIT FOR SIX": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 7 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

FILM, "NAKED ACTS": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. Includes Q&A with director. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 9:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

SUN, FEB. 22

OUTDOORS AND TOURS
DISCOVERY TOUR: See Saturday, Feb. 21.

PERFORMANCE
THEATER, "FABULATION OR THE RE-EDUCATION OF UNDINE": 1:30 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.
THEATER, "THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE!": 3 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.
THEATER, "THE WINTER'S TALE": 3 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.
CLASSICAL MUSIC: Brooklyn Symphony. See 9 DAYS on page 10

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CIVIC CALENDAR

MON, FEB. 23

Community Board 6, Economic, Waterfront, Community Development and Housing Committee. Monthly meeting. On the agenda: Pier 7 and the Atlantic Basin. 6:30 pm. PS 15 [71 Sullivan St. between Richards and Van Brunt streets in Red Hook, (718) 643-3027].

Community Board 6, Public Safety, Environmental Protection, Licenses and Permits Committee. Monthly meeting. 6:30 pm. PS 32 [317 Hoyt St., between Union and President streets in Carroll Gardens, (718) 643-3027]. www.brooklynpcb6.org.

Fort Greene Association. Monthly meeting. 7 pm. Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church [85 South Oxford St., at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 875-1855]. www.HistoricFortGreene.org.

Community Board 10. Full board. Monthly meeting. 7:15 pm. Knights

of Columbus [1305 86th St., at 13th Avenue in Dyker Heights, (718) 745-6827].

TUES, FEB. 24

78th Precinct Community Council. Monthly meeting. 6:30 pm. 78th Precinct stationhouse [65 Sixth Ave., at Bergen Street in Prospect Heights, (718) 636-6410].

WED, FEB. 25

Community Board 6, Youth, Human Services and Education Committee. Monthly meeting. 6:30 pm. Cobble Hill Community Meeting Room [250 Baltic Street between Court and Clinton streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 855-5929].

Open Space Alliance. Forum about public art in parks. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Brewery [79 North 11th St., between Berry and Wythe streets in Williamsburg]. www.openspaceallianceb6.org.

THURS, FEB. 26

Community Board 6, Landmarks and Land-Use Committee. Monthly meeting. On the agenda: Environmental impact statement for the proposed Gowanus rezoning. 6:30 pm. Long Island College Hospital [339 Hicks St., near the corner of Atlantic Avenue in Cobble Hill, (718) 643-3027]. www.brooklynpcb6.org.

Windsor Terrace Alliance. Monthly meeting. On the agenda: All seven candidates for city council will be on hand! 6:30 pm. Bishop Ford HS [500 19th St., between Prospect Park West and 10th Avenue in Windsor Terrace, (718) 393-8119]. www.windsorterracealliance.org.

Brooklyn Heights Association. Annual meeting. Includes talk by New York Times reporter Floyd Norris and election of new officers. 7:30 pm. Plymouth Church [56 Cranberry St., between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 858-9193]. www.brooklynheightsassociation.org.

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Newsroom@BrooklynPaper.com.



The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's Real Newspaper



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Kings' queens

The Miss Brooklyn pageant is back

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn might be the county of Kings — but it's also a destination for queens. Strong showings by Brooklyn gals in state and national beauty pageants have transformed the city's fairest borough into a beauty beacon, according to pageant professionals. "There's something about Brooklyn that attracts girls who go on to have great success in pageants," said Kim Thomas, who revived the Miss Brooklyn pageant last year after a 16-year absence. "Brooklyn is definitely taking over the reigns in the Miss New York pageant, and as Brooklyn girls continue to succeed you'll see a bigger presence in pageants in the area."

Last year, brunette beaut Leigh-Taylor Smith took home the Miss Brooklyn tiara before going on to win the Miss New York tiara and rank third in the illustrious Miss America pageant.



Hit Miss: Leigh-Taylor Smith won the crown last year.

Smith's strong showing — coupled with Bay Ridge resident Bethlene Pancoast's 2006 Miss New York victory — have earned the borough's pageant scene a winning reputation, according to LaToya Evans, a spokeswoman

from the Miss New York pageant. "Brooklyn produces a lot of strong pageant winners who perform well at our state pageants," she said. The borough's latest crop of pageant gals will test their beauty, brains, and Brooklyn bravado on Sunday, Feb. 22 in the fight for this year's Miss Brooklyn sash.

With Vaseline on their teeth, spray tan on their skin, and double-sided tape in strategic spots beneath their evening gowns, nine contestants will compete for this year's title — and the right to embellize the borough.

"I've always wanted to represent Brooklyn because I've lived here all of my life," said Bay Ridge resident Diana Greene, 20, a student at St. Francis College in Brooklyn Heights. "I didn't even want to go

away to college because I'm so comfortable here."

This year's contestants — all Brooklyn residents, Brooklyn students, or full-time employees at Brooklyn businesses, unlike last year, when Smith, the Manhattanite, won — will discuss a community or social issue that they consider important.

They'll also go through an interview, and take part in an onstage question and answer before they can showcase their talents — which include tap dancing, Bollywood dancing, and a variety of other forms of dancing.

But before the judges award the winner a \$1,000 scholarship, the contenders — who hail from neighborhoods including Park Slope, Greenpoint, and Bensonhurst — will also take part in a swimsuit and evenin-

gwear contest. And the pageant gals say they know what it will take to win: heart.





"I think the real Miss Brooklyn is someone that absolutely loves the borough — someone whose heart is in the borough," said Alabamabred contestant Carlton Alexander, 23, who moved to Brooklyn Heights two years ago.

EVENT

The 2009 Miss Brooklyn Scholarship Pageant and Outstanding Teen Scholarship Pageant, Sunday, Feb. 22, Long Island University's Kumble Theater (1 University Plaza at Wileoughby Street in Downtown, (718) 488-1624), 4 pm. Tickets, \$25-\$40. For info, visit www.brooklynqueens.org.

There they are!

The winner of this year's Miss Brooklyn pageant might go on to become Miss America — but the queens eager to represent Kings say that it takes something special to serve the borough. Here are the top contestants:

			
Name	Christine Florio	Jemesha Francis	Carlton Alexander
Age	18	22	23
From	East New York	Bensonhurst	Brooklyn Heights
School	Marymount Manhattan College, majoring in speech therapy.	SUNY-Albany graduate student focusing on Latin American and Caribbean studies.	New York University graduate student focusing on dance education.
Factoid	Hostess at the Del Rio diner on King's Highway.	Hopes to work as a diplomat.	Born in Alabama, in love with Brooklyn.
Quote	"I'm a prime example of what Brooklyn is — I've lived here my entire life, I grew up here, I go to school here. My platform is cultural appreciation — I really want to make everyone understand how they should appreciate every culture that's in Brooklyn: Russian, Chinese, Spanish, Irish, everything."	"As Miss Brooklyn, you're an ambassador for Brooklyn — so winning would give me a preview of what I want to do in the future. It's about pushing towards a certain goal. It's about being confident and speaking to people and speaking to crowds. That's why my platform is to help people build self-confidence, especially young girls."	"I think the real Miss Brooklyn is someone that absolutely loves the borough — someone whose heart is in the borough. The real Miss Brooklyn is someone who when asked where they are from, says Brooklyn, not New York. I fell in love with Brooklyn the first week of living here. I just love it here."



Live free or rock: New Hampshire quartet Wild Light will play the Music Hall of Williamsburg on Feb. 26.

BROOKLYN Nightlife

BOERUM HILL

Hank's Saloon

46 Third Ave. at Atlantic Avenue, (718) 625-8003, www.exitfive.com/hankssaloon.

Wednesdays: Live band "Rockstar Karaoke," 9:30 pm, FREE; **Feb. 21:** Top 10 Lovers; **Feb. 26:** The False Alarms; **Feb. 27:** The Seymours, 9 pm; So is the Tongue, 10 pm; Scribes of Fire, 11 pm; Imbala (midnight); **Feb. 28:** Black Pool, 9 pm; The Cross Between, 10 pm; Ninth House, 11 pm; Bitter Grace (midnight).

CLINTON HILL

Jazz 966

966 Fulton St. at St. James Place, (718) 638-6910, www.librew.com. **Fridays:** Live jazz, 8 pm, \$15 donation.

Tamboril

527 Myrtle Ave. at Grand Avenue, (718) 622-5130, www.tamborilnyc.com. **Sundays:** Afro-Jazz Sundays, 6 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Shan Kenner (Latin Jazz Be-Bop Jam Session), 8 pm, \$TBD.

COBBLE HILL

Last Exit

136 Atlantic Ave. at Clinton Street, (718) 222-9198, www.lastexitbar.com.

Saturdays: "Kayo's Knockout," DJ Kayo's booty-shakin', jam-jumpin', all-night, get-down party, 10 pm, FREE.

COLUMBIA STREET

Jalopy

315 Columbia St. at Woodhull Street, (718) 395-3214, www.jalopy.biz.

Mondays: Tony Scherr, 9 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Roots 'n' Ruckus, a night of folk, old-time, and blues, 9:30 pm, FREE; **Feb. 21:** Peter Stampel and friends, 9 pm; **Feb. 23:** Chris Brown and Kate Fenner, 8 pm; Tony Scherr and special guests, 9 pm; **Feb. 26:** Jon Sholle and Bob Jones, 9 pm; **Feb. 27:** Denis Chang (9 pm), Franglals (10:30 pm).

FORT GREENE

BAM Café

30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place, (718) 230-4100, www.bam.org.

<http://>

For more Brooklyn Nightlife options, see our listings at BrooklynPaper.com/Nightlife

Feb. 21: Gabriel Alegria Afro-Peruvian Sextet, 9 pm; **Feb. 27:** The Revelations with Tré Williams, 9 pm.

GOWANUS

The Bell House

149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue, (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhouse.com.

Feb. 21: French Kicks, Pomegranates, 8 pm, \$12; **Feb. 22:** Robert Bobbert and the Bubble Machine, 2 pm, \$12; **Feb. 22:** Matsuyahu and friends, 7:30 pm, \$10; **Feb. 26:** The Whitest Kids U'Know (comedy), 8 pm, \$15; **Feb. 27:** The Old Ceremony, 7:30 pm, \$10; Yacht Rock, 10 pm, \$10; **Feb. 28:** Phosphorescent, Mike Bones, Motel Motel, 8 pm, \$10; **March 1:** Via Audio and Oppenheimer, 7:30 pm, \$10.

PARK SLOPE

Barbes

376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue, (718) 965-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com.

Sundays: Stephane Wrembel presents The Django Experiment, 9 pm, \$10; **Tuesdays:** Slavic Soul Party, 9 pm, \$10; **Wednesdays:** Stochastic Brooklyn, 8 pm, \$10 per set; The Mandingo Ambassadors, 10 pm, \$10; **Feb. 21:** Danny Kalb, 8 pm, \$10; **Feb. 22:** Ben Holmes Trio, 7 pm, \$10; **Feb. 23:** Denis Chang, 7 pm, \$10; **Feb. 24:** Kevin Tkacz's Lethal Objection; **Feb. 25:** Jacob Wick's White Rabbit; **Feb. 26:** Gaida.

Brooklyn Lyceum

227 Fourth Ave. at President Street, (718) 857-4816, www.brooklynlyceum.com.

Sundays: Jazz on Sundays, 9-11:45 pm; **Wednesdays:** Jazz on Wednesdays, 8-10:45 pm.

Southpaw

125 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place, (718) 230-0236, www.spsounds.com.

Feb. 21: Five Times Fast, Blame The Patient, Darn Dog and the Meddling Kids, Pony, Almost Easy,

1:30 pm; **Feb. 22:** Acoustically Related with Donna Lewis, Andy Zipf, Tom Crowley, Sean Fournier; **Feb. 24:** Solar One; **Feb. 25:** Adams Castle, Gigantic Hand, Appomettox; **Feb. 26:** Animal Pharm, Pill Hill Radio, Xavier Cardriche; **Feb. 27:** Badman, She Keeps Bees, Demander, Peculier Gentlemen; **Feb. 28:** The Johnny Cash 77th Birthday Bash.

Union Hall

702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallnyc.com.

Feb. 21: Get Him, Eat Him, Kleenex Girl Wonder, 8 pm, \$10; **Feb. 22:** Tearing the Veil of Maya, 7:30 pm, \$7; **Feb. 24:** Steve Schiffman and the Land of No, Family Time, Hospitality, 7:30 pm, \$8; **Feb. 26:** Tally Hall, the Hard Lessons, Oppenheimer; **Feb. 27:** Uninhabitable Mansions, Spacecamp, Vessels; **Feb. 28:** The Queen Killing Kings, Fin Moore; **March 1:** Tearing the Veil of Maya.

WILLIAMSBURG

Music Hall of Williamsburg

66 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue, (718) 486-5400, www.musichall-ofwilliamsburg.com.

Feb. 21: Noah and the Whale, Ferraby Lionheart; **Feb. 25:** Witch, Earthless, Children; **Feb. 27:** ... And You Will Know Us By The Trail of Dead; **Feb. 28:** Blitztrapper.

Pete's Candy Store

709 Lorimer St. at Richardson Street, (718) 302-3770, www.pet-escandystore.com.

Feb. 21: Lohio 9; **Feb. 22:** Sasha Dobson (8:30 pm), The Plumes (9:30 pm); **Feb. 23:** Monday Evening Stand-Up (7:30); **Feb. 24:** Dragland (9 pm), Worky Tonk (10 pm), Secondhand Pinups (11 pm); **Feb. 25:** Daniel Goodman (10 pm).

Public Assembly

70 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue, (718) 782-5188, www.publicassemblynyc.com.

Sundays: Sid & Barry Karaoke (front room), 9 pm, FREE; **Mondays:** The New Monday Night Burlesque (front room), 8 pm, FREE.

Union Pool

484 Union Ave. at Meeker Avenue, (718) 609-0484, www.myspace.com/unionpool.

Feb. 21: Kocho Bisexual, Obi Best, Ostinato.

Zebulon

258 Wythe Ave. at Metropolitan Avenue, (718) 218-6934, www.myspace.com/zebulonconcert.

Feb. 21: Les Sans Couloires; **Feb. 22:** The Balloons (7 pm), Kelli Scarr (9 pm).

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www.BrooklynPaper.com

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

phony Orchestra plays a program of Nicolai, Zwillich and Beethoven. \$15. 3 pm. St. Ann's Church [157 Montague Street at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 707-1411]. www.brooklynorchestra.org.

FLAMENCO VIVO CARLOTA SANTANA: Spanish dance company performs "Fiesta Flamenca." \$25-\$35. 3 pm. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Rd. at Hill Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500]. www.brooklyncenteronline.org.

CLASSICAL MUSIC: Malinconia Quartet performs works by Beethoven, Shostakovich and Grieg. \$20 (\$10 students). 3 pm. Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church [85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 855-3053]. www.brooklynfriendsofchambermusic.org.

CLASSICAL MUSIC: Works by Haydn, Mozart and Schubert. \$35 (\$20 students). 3 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083]. www.bargemusic.org.

THEATER, "MABOU MINES DOLLHOUSE": 4 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

DANCE, LAVA: 7 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

SALES AND MARKETS
Flea Market: Free. 8 am-5 pm. Our Lady of Perpetual Help [526 59th St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Sunset Park, (917) 312-9855]. www.olphbkny.org.
WINTER ANTIQUES MARKET: See Saturday, Feb. 21.

OTHER

TUNNEL TOUR: Explore the abandoned railroad tunnel under Atlantic Avenue. \$15. 1:15. Meet in front of bank building [Atlantic Avenue and Court Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 941-3160].

TALK, "BODIES AND FACES": 11 am and 2 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

BROOKLYN ARCHITECTURE TOUR: Urban Park Rangers lead tour of historic brownstones, churches and more. Free. 1 pm. Fort Greene Park [Visitor Center (Enter park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park) in Fort Greene]. www.nyc.gov/parks/rangers.

FILM, "THE BLACK LIST - VOLUME ONE": Documentary features Elvis Mitchell interviewing a cross-section of prominent African Americans. 2 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Easen Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000]. www.brooklynmuseum.org.

FILM, "MR. PRESIDENT": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 2 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

MISS BROOKLYN PAGEANT: \$30. 4 pm. Kumble Theater, Long Island University [1 University Plaza at Wil-



'Dead' aim: Michel Piccoli stars as an alienated industrial designer yearning to break free from his materialistic existence in "Dillinger is Dead," a classic 1969 film unspooling this weekend at BAM.

loughby Street in Downtown, (718) 488-1624]. www.brooklyn.liu.edu/kumbletheater.

FILM, "THE END OF POVERTY?": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 4:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

FILM, "GOSPEL HILL": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. Includes Q&A with director. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 6:50 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

FILM, "COMPLEXION": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 9:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

MON, FEB. 23

FILM, "HIT FOR SIX": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 4:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

FILM, "PALOMA DELIGHT": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 6:50 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

READING, MARLON JAMES: Author of "The Book of Night Women." Free. 7 pm. Barnes & Noble [106 Court St., between Livingston and State streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 245-4996]. www.bn.com/

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in **Nine Days In Brooklyn**, please give us two weeks notice or more. Send your listing by e-mail: calendar@brooklynpaper.com; or by mail: GO Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

version of Chekhov's classic. \$30-\$90. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

MUSIC, WOMEN COMPOSERS CONCERT: Light and Sound presents work by Margarita Zelenia, Eleanor Cory, Judith Lang Zaimont, Rain Worthington, Elodie Lauten and Beth Anderson. \$20. 8 pm. Old Stone House [Fifth Avenue, between Third and Fifth streets in Park Slope, (516) 586-3433]. www.theold-stonehouse.org.

THEATER, "MABOU MINES DOLLHOUSE": 8 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

FILM, "GOSPEL HILL": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. Includes Q&A with director. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 9:40 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

WED, FEB. 25

10 STEPS TO STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS: Business solutions seminar. Sponsored by the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. Free. 1 pm. Brooklyn Business Solutions Center [9 Bond St. between Fulton and Livingston streets, 5th Floor in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 875-3400]. www.ibrooklyn.com.

FILM, "PRINCESS OF AFRICA": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 4:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

TALK, FORECLOSURE PREVENTION WORKSHOP: Free. 6 pm. CAMBA [884 Flatbush Ave. at Church Avenue in Flatbush, (718) 282-2500]. www.camba.org.

FILM, "THE END OF POVERTY?": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 6:20 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

READING, SEX AND THE NEW PARENT: Jocelyn Hart helps new parents discover how to put the zing back into their sex lives. Free. 7 pm. Babeland [462 Bergen St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 638-3820]. www.babeland.com.

FILM, "SOME PLACE LIKE HOME": Documentary about gentrification in Downtown Brooklyn. \$5 (suggested). 7 pm. Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church [85 South Oxford St. between Lafayette and Greene avenues in Fort Greene]. furee.org/film/premiere.

THEATER, "THE CHERRY ORCHARD": 7:30 pm. See Tuesday, Feb. 24.

READING, JANE BRODY: Author of "Jane Brody's Guide to The Great Beyond: A Practical Primer to Help You and Your Loved Ones Prepare Medically, Legally, and Emotionally for

See **9 DAYS** on page 11

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FEBRUARY RECOMMENDATIONS

These are Darrin's Best Buys for February!

Primaterra, Pinot Grigio
Pinot Grigio as it's meant to taste... and to cost! Funny, isn't it, how Pinot Grigio cost so much less in Italy, and tastes so much better? Well, here's one that gets everything right, right here in Brooklyn! Crisp and bracing with fresh ripe apple notes and a hint of white flowers on the nose. **\$9.95**

Covey Run, Gewurztraminer
Don't be shy: say "guh WURZ truh MEE ner" There you go! One of the noble grapes of Germany & Alsace, this aromatic delight (smells a lot like fresh lychees) is perfect with spicy Thai, Indian & Chinese dishes, as well as rich, ripe cheeses. Absolutely lip-smacking delicious! The name? The grape originated in Tramin, on the Italian side of the Tyrol Alps, and "gewurz" means "spicy." **\$9.95**

Excelsior, Shiraz "Paddock"
The De Wets family of Excelsior have a proud wine-making tradition dating back to 1697. This deep burgundy red wine has rich aromas of mocha & vanilla, and plenty of wild berry flavors with subtle base notes of licorice and spice. Great with grilled meats! **\$9.95**

Rose Row, Pinot Noir
Delicious Pinot Noir at an unbelievable price! Pinot Noir prices have been soaring, and I honestly thought that we'd never see a good Pinot for under \$15 again... until our friend Sylvie brought a bottle of Rose Row for me to taste. One sip and I ordered 50 cases! I simply had to share this one with you. **\$9.95**

Plenty of blackberry, raspberry and cassis notes with a whiff of vanilla and spice. Delicious... and a bargain!

Buy Darrin's Best Buys 4 Pack and Save 10% **\$35.84**

Darrin's February Discovery Wines!

Erdener Treppchen Riesling, by Stephan Ehlen
The tiny arisinal Ehlen Estate, founded in 1668, produces delicate hand crafted Mosel Rieslings that are much sought after by wine lovers all over the world. The most often used word that describes them is "elegant" and this bottling lives up to that reputation. Wine maker Stefan Justen (owner of nearby Meulenhof) has created this delicious, mineral redolent Riesling from the weathered slate of the famed Treppchen Vineyard, one of the steepest, most difficult to work in all of Europe. the word feinherb means that wine is neither sweet nor dry, but "half dry." **\$18.95**

Ca' Del Solo Sangiovese, by Bonny Doon Vineyard
Randall Graham... founder and wine maker of Bonny Doon. This wine is an outstanding example of why Randall is one of my favorite winemakers. The grapes are biodynamically grown, using no chemical fertilizers, herbicides or fungicides. The wine is fermented using only the wild yeasts that are naturally occurring in this vineyard. No added sulphites! Sangiovese, the most important wine grape of Italy, here makes a concentrated, intensely flavored wine with loads of cherry aromas and flavors. This "cal-ital" red is so delicious... you really must try it! **\$12.95**

Buy my December Discovery Wines Two Pack and Save 10% **\$28.71**

February Spirit of the Month

Triple Eight Vodka
Every year, my grandmother would flavor a bottle, adding a dried tangerine peel one year, a small handful of cherry pits the next. After a week or two, the bottle would go into the freezer, to be enjoyed in small sips. Finding good vodka isn't easy. That's why I'm so enthusiastic about Triple Eight! The cranberry is light & dry, while the blueberry is a knockout. This is one you must try! **\$31.49**

February Cellar Selection

Ceres Ribera Del Duero, by Asenjo & Manso
Isn't it time you started your wine cellar? You don't need an actual cellar... but wise wine drinkers look for wines that will improve with a few years of ageing. It's not about famous names, nor is it about wines as financial investments: it's about buying a wine that, in a few years, will taste like you paid twice or even three times as much for it as you did. Buy at least one bottle of each month's wine and simply put it down for a few years. In a short time, you will have on hand a collection of delicious, mature wine, ready for your enjoyment. **\$29.95**

OUR OPINION

Support free speech!

David Yassky has some nerve. As politicians, Yassky and his comrades like to control their image. But in a pathetic attempt to keep their halos unscathed, local pols are continuing to hinder the free distribution of newspapers.

The latest example came this week, when Yassky, the Brooklyn Heights Councilman, set aside a page on his official Web site to invite the public to complain about "dangerous eyesore" newsboxes.

"Eyesores"? In some cases, arguably yes. But "dangerous"? Certainly not as dangerous as the city's ongoing harassment of newspaper publishers — whose only "crime" is their effort to inform the public of the very news Yassky often claims is so vital.

This might be logical only in a city where the extent to which low-level pols inform the public consists of taxpayer-financed trash cans that gratuitously bear their names, and the self-serving newsletters they send out on our dime.

The stated goal of the politicians and the effete, ivory tower "planners" is to remake the city's traditionally pulsating and diverse streetscape in the image of a sanitized, Jetsons-esque metropolis. Collateral damage from this assault on our public space is a stranglehold on the traditional media — a news format that, perhaps you've heard, is being clobbered by the Internet (where there is little of the original, hard-hitting reporting that might make those in power at least a little bit uncomfortable).

Thanks to homogenization-supporting activists like Yassky and the Municipal Art Society, newsbox rules make it harder for the public to get its information.

For example, newsboxes must be five feet from a driveway, 15 feet from fire hydrants, two feet of any curb cut, 15 feet from a subway entrance or exit and 15 feet from a newsstand, and leave eight feet of "unobstructed" sidewalk — it makes you wonder where you can legally put a newsbox!

And last year, the city passed a law to allow building owners to bar "unsolicited material" from reaching their tenants. That bill's stated goal was to block menus, but the result greatly curtailed newspaper distribution. Not everyone can afford to spend \$10.60 every week to have the New York Times dropped on his doorstep or purchase an expensive device to allow him to access the award-winning Brooklyn Paper Web site.

In addition, the city prevents newspaper publishers from distributing inside public housing projects — a form of censorship that deprives some of the poorest members of our society access to free, unbiased coverage of the politicians who hold their lives in their very hands.

It's time for the politicians to stop cracking down on newspapers and crack down on the real villains here: the miscreants and graffiti "artists" who deface the newsboxes in the first place.

The Brooklyn Paper currently does not have newsboxes on any street.

ALL DRAWN OUT



Cristian Fleming

LETTERS

Another stunned response to arena editorial

To the editor,

The Brooklyn Paper's recent editorial calling for the use of precious federal stimulus dollars for the arena at Atlantic Yards underlies a desperation ("Paper: Use fed \$ for arena," Feb. 7).

As the crisis deepens, the fear creates confusion that may lead to poor decision-making about how best to utilize these funds. Despite the very real fear generated by this downturn, we need to remember what the stimulus is for and how best to use it to Brooklyn's long-term benefit.

Yes, we need immediate job creation from shovel-ready

projects, but why should Atlantic Yards — a privately owned venture — be the primary beneficiary of these costly federal dollars?

Does The Brooklyn Paper really believe (like our borough president, Mayor Bloomberg and numerous other elected hangers-on) that there are no crumbling schools, old water mains, no public housing projects with uninhabitable apartments or broken or faulty elevators and security cameras that should be rebuilt or replaced?

Are all of Brooklyn's libraries, playgrounds or parks in such great shape that none need to be refurbished?

The passage of the stimulus presents us with a once in a generation opportunity to make a large number of improvements to our bridges, roads, schools, subways and public buildings — all of which have been victims of long-term public neglect.

The use of stimulus funds for any component of the Atlantic Yard project would represent a betrayal by our elected officials.

How can they protest overcrowded schools, crumbling

bridges, an impending subway fare hike and/or East River tolls, and still call for diverting precious stimulus funds to a privately owned basketball arena?

Francis Byrd, Prospect Heights
The writer is a former 57th Assembly District leader.

Go, Steve, go!

To the editor,

I was pleased to read in the Feb. 7 edition of The Brooklyn Paper that former councilman Steven DiBrienza is running again to make "our neighborhoods livable" — something that has been sadly lacking in Cobble Hill since he and our former mayor left office ("DiBrienza seeks second helping").

For the last eight years, Cobble Hill has been the orphan of the council district. Street garbage overflowing from the high-rise movie theater and fast food restaurants north of Atlantic Avenue flows south with no effort by the city to clean it up.

The so-called "meter maids" have no problem ticketing cars on our streets on Sunday, but where are the sanitary police? Those of us

who work hard and pay the taxes get a weekend of filth from overflowing garbage baskets, dozens of junk publications stands, graffiti and potholed streets.

Meanwhile, Park Slope and other neighborhoods in the council, Assembly and state Senate districts receive publicly funded private services courtesy of member items.

You would think the Community Board 6 staff, located just off Court Street in Cobble Hill would have been all over the issue but no. We're looking forward to supporting a candidate who will help clean up Cobble Hill — literally.

So if you're the one to make it livable Mr. DiBrienza, you have our vote! And we will work to get other votes for you.

Robert Sherman, Cobble Hill

Dock this plan

To the editor,

I was just reading about the dust up concerning Dock Street DUMBO, Two Trees' project at the Brooklyn Bridge ("Mixed message on Dock Street plan," Jan. 28). It seems to me that every-

one's interests could be addressed by making the tallest part of the building, which is now parallel to Main Street, into a short tower mirroring the existing building at the corner of Main and Water Streets.

Doing so would move the mass of the building away from the bridge, increasing the views from the other buildings in the neighborhood as well as to and from the bridge and its approaches, while giving the Valentines about the same number of saleable square feet as they would get with their contested plan.

Charles Boxenbaum, DUMBO
The writer is an architect.

A place for Abe

To the editor,

As you reported two weeks ago, the Lincoln Statue cannot be returned to its original location ("Honest — Abe heading home," Feb. 7). Instead, it should be placed between the arch in Grand Army Plaza and the Bailey Fountain, facing north so that it overlooks the fountain. Here's why:

• From the John F. Kennedy Memorial, you would see Lin-

coln framed by the Arch through the fountain.

• From Prospect Park, looking through the Arch, you would see Lincoln standing in front of the Empire State Building which is floating above the waters of the fountain.

This respects and conforms to the reasons Olmsted planned this "line of vision" through our Civil War Memorial Plaza in 1865.

Richard Kessler, Park Slope

Metal urge

To the editor,

Even though I live in New Jersey, I do enjoy an occasional day of metal detecting in beautiful Prospect Park ("Gold-diggers fight back; banned from Prospect Park, 'detectionists' want in," Feb. 7). The trip is longer than most areas where I hunt, but once I get settled in for a few hours of detecting, I feel so relaxed that it was certainly worth the trip (tolls and gas, too!).

I have been much saddened by having Prospect Park taken out of the city Parks Department permit program. Detecting there has always been rewarding, not just for retrieving coins from the ground,

but in removing trash of all kinds as I went along.

I cannot understand how my hobby, metal detecting, rubs against the political grain.

There are no waves of detectionists that fall upon the park at any given time, no way! I'll see few, if any, others detecting when I go there.

Once in a while, I will come across a hole, whether it was made by another detectionist, a dog or another animal. I would simply patch it up and make it undetectable, and then move on.

I make a good effort to leave the park in a much better condition than when I first arrived. It's the least I can do to help keep it clean and beautiful for others who will soon come after me.

Can I make a complaint about the shoes used by those playing ball on the fields in this park? Picking on those that use a metal detector in a park as a way to pound one's inflated chest is a poor excuse for showing off power and authority.

Parks are for everyone's use and enjoyment. Amen.

Ernest Zimmerman, Bergen County, NJ

LOBSTER...

Continued from page 1

Ng invited reporters back on Tuesday for the hand-off, but things did not go as planned.

First, PETA volunteer Ashley Lou Smith, of Clinton Hill, declined Ng's gracious offer of sushi, opting for a plate of edamame.

"It's a little ironic to be eating seafood right now," said Smith, whose lapel sported a heart-shaped pin with the word "Fur" crossed out. She did take the sushi home with her — after being assured it was vegetarian.

After crating Craig in a box that read, ironically, "perishable," Ng gave her shelled friend one last kiss (though, understandably, she did wipe the kiss from her lips).

The original goal was to ship Craig overnight via UPS, but PETA and Ng demanded that the UPS man guarantee that Craig would be handled gently for the entirety of the trip and enjoy a ride to New Hampshire with no other boxes placed on top of his.

When the deliveryman could not make such a guarantee, Smith and Ng balked.

"The UPS man wasn't compassionate at all," said Ng. "I just thought, there's no way we can leave him with this guy. We can't trust him. It's horrible."

Meanwhile, other PETA workers handed out press releases quoting a marine biologist who claims that lobsters have a "sophisticated nervous system" and feel "a great deal of pain" when cooked alive.

Craig was expected to be transferred on Friday, if Smith found a New York-area volunteer with a driver's license and a car — and time to drive Craig to the Granite State.

Before he is repatriated, he will be tagged so that fisher-

men know to toss him back — though they don't always do, Smith admitted.

After the UPS incident, Ng put Craig back in his tank, where he stretched one claw out in front of the other like a boxer ready for a fight. She consoled him with shrimp.

"It's a little sad to say goodbye," she said. "But I think he will be much happier in the ocean."

One of her customers agreed, though not for the same reason.

"It's very nice of them to put him back in the ocean," said one customer. "Besides, I wouldn't want to eat him because I never want to eat anything that old."

BEER

Continued from page 1

VanRy hoped that winning the case on the merits would forever prevent cops from ticketing people for a quiet beer on their private steps, so Tuesday's dismissal was a little unsatisfying.

"It feels a little hollow," VanRy said. "This dismissal doesn't allow us to drink on the stoop, which was the purpose of this case."

It's unclear why the case took "too long," as Schwartzwald said. VanRy showed up for all his court appointments last fall and

this winter, but the trials never took place, though reasons were never given.

Last week, the trial was scuttled when a judge took himself off the case because — in his words, not ours — The Brooklyn Paper's coverage of the VanRy Affair has been "too good."

"I read about the case in your paper," said Jerome Kay, a Park Slope resident.

In the end, Brooklynites should not take VanRy's "win" as evidence that stoop drinking will be officially condoned by the NYPD, the successful Sierra Nevada lover said.

"I'm not sure I'll drink on my stoop," he said.

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 11

the End of Life." **Free.** 7:30 pm. Barnes & Noble [267 Seventh Avenue at Fifth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-9066, www.bn.com/events].

TALK, "BROADWAY UNBOUND": Creators of "Avenue Q" and "Title of Show" discuss redefining the Broadway musical. \$15. 7:30 pm. PS 107 (Eighth Avenue at 13th Street in Park Slope), www.ps107.org.

THEATER, "MABOU MINES DOLLHOUSE": 8 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

FILM, "NAMIBIA: The Struggle for Liberation": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 8:40 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

THURS, FEB. 26

FILM, "MR. PRESIDENT": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 4:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

SURGICAL WEIGHT REDUCTION: Information seminar and support group. 5:30-7:30 pm. New York Methodist Hospital, Executive Dining Room [506 Sixth St. between Seventh and Eighth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 780-3283].

ART SALE: Gallery closing. **Free.** 6 pm. Clinton Hill Art Gallery [154 Vanderbilt Ave. at Myrtle Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 857-0074].

FILM, "JACQUES ROUMAIN, PASSION FOR A COUNTRY": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. Includes Q&A with director. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 6:40 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

READING, "FUNNY BECAUSE IT'S TRUE": Simon Rich, author of "Free-Range

Chickens" and "Ant Farm," and Benjamin Nugent, author of "American Nerd: The Story of My People." Moderated by Ben Greenman. **Free.** 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhouse-arena.com.

READING, BILL GERMAN: Author of "Under their Thumb: How a Nice Boy from Brooklyn Got Mixed Up with the Rolling Stones (and Lived to Tell About It)." **Free.** 7 pm. Barnes & Noble [106 Court St., between Livingston and State streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 246-4996], www.bn.com/events.

MIDEAST TALK: Maya Sabatello, from the Israeli Information Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories, speaks about the Occupied Territories and Gaza. **Free.** 7 pm. Brooklyn Friends Meeting House [110 Schermerhorn St. at Boerum Place in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 624-5921], brooklynpeace.org.

THEATER, "THE CHERRY ORCHARD": 7:30 pm. See Tuesday, Feb. 24.

THEATER, "THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA": Live actors and puppets interpret the classic story by Federico Garcia Lorca. \$5. 7:30 pm. The New Workshop Theater at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Road at Hillel Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500], www.brooklyncenteronline.org.

THEATER, "MABOU MINES DOLLHOUSE": 8 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

MUSIC, BROOKLYN PHILHARMONIC: Indie rock bands Bell Orchestra and Clogs. \$15-\$50. 8 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

DANCE, LAVA: 8 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

JAZZ: Jeff Newell's New-Trad Quartet celebrates Mardi Gras. \$35 (\$20 students). 8 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083], www.bargemusic.org.

OPERA: OperaOggyNY presents Puccini's "Suor Angelica." \$20. 8 pm. McCaddin Memorial Theater [188 Berry St. between N.

Third and Fourth streets in Williamsburg], www.operaoggy.com.

THEATER, "CHUCK.CHUCK. CHUCK.": Multi-media piece based on William Faulkner's novel "As I Lay Dying." \$12. 8:30 pm. The Collapsible Hole [146 Metropolitan Ave. at Berry Street in Williamsburg, (212) 696-7227], immediatemedium.org.

FILM, "MADE IN JAMAICA": Part of the African Diaspora Film Festival. \$11 (\$8 for seniors and students). 9:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

FRI, FEB. 27

FILM, "DILLINGER IS DEAD": Marco Ferreri's 1969 classic. \$11 (\$8 for senior and students). 2 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:50 pm, 9:15 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

ART SALE: See Thursday, Feb. 26.

THEATER, "THE CHERRY ORCHARD": 7:30 pm. See Tuesday, Feb. 24.

THEATER, "THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA": 7:30 pm. See Thursday, Feb. 26.

THEATER, "MABOU MINES DOLLHOUSE": 8 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

DANCE, LAVA: 8 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: NeolIT Ensemble performs tribute to Olivier Messiaen. \$35 (\$20 students). 8 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083], www.bargemusic.org.

ROOTS MUSIC: Frank and Nancy Moccaldi perform. \$10 (\$6 kids). 8 pm. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture [53 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 768-2972], www.bsec.org.

THEATER, "ARSENIC AND OLD LACE": Narrows Community Theater presents screwball comedy about murderous old ladies. \$15 (\$12 students and seniors). 8 pm. Salem Lutheran Church [450 67th

St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Bay Ridge, (718) 482-3173], www.narrowscommunitytheater.com.

CLASSICAL MUSIC: The OMNI Ensemble presents work by Mozart, Haydn and Schwelger, plus a world premiere from David Wechsler. \$15 (\$10 students and seniors). 8 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music [58 Seventh Ave. at Lincoln Place in Park Slope, (718) 859-8491].

OPERA: 8 pm. See Thursday, Feb. 26.

THEATER, "CHUCK.CHUCK. CHUCK.": 8:30 pm. See Thursday, Feb. 26.

SAT, FEB. 28

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

INTRODUCTION TO BIRD-WATCHING: Noon-1:30 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

DISCOVERY TOUR: 3 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "THE CHERRY ORCHARD": 2 pm. See Tuesday, Feb. 24.

THEATER, "THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA": 2 pm and 7:30 pm. See Thursday, Feb. 26.

THEATER, "ARSENIC AND OLD LACE": 3 pm and 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 27.

DANCE, LAVA: 7 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

THEATER, "THE WINTER'S TALE": 7:30 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

THEATER, "MABOU MINES DOLLHOUSE": 8 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

MUSIC, PERCUSSION CONCERT: LOOP 2.4.3 performs original percussion works. \$10 (\$5 students and seniors). 8 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory Concert Hall [58 Seventh Ave. at Lincoln Place in Park Slope, (212) 209-3370], www.bccm.org/concerts.htm.

CLASSICAL MUSIC: Works by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Britten and Shostakovich. \$35 (\$20 students). 8 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083], www.bargemusic.org.

THEATER, "CATCH 33": Performance and video art series. \$10. 8 pm. Starr Space [108 Starr St. between Knickerbocker and Wil-

son avenues in Bushwick], www.catchseries.org.

OPERA: OperaOggyNY presents Puccini's "Suor Angelica." \$20. 8 pm. McCaddin Memorial Theater [188 Berry St. between N. Third and Fourth streets in Williamsburg], www.operaoggy.com.

THEATER, "CHUCK.CHUCK. CHUCK.": 8:30 pm. See Thursday, Feb. 26.

SALES AND MARKETS

WINTER ANTIQUES MARKET: See Saturday, Feb. 21.

BOOK FAIR: Art impresario Danny Simmons will host a black-themed book fair. **Free.** Noon-9 pm. New Baptist Temple Church [360 Schermerhorn St. between Third Avenue and Nevins Street in Boerum Hill, (718) 436-1079].

ARTIST MARKET: Vendors selling food, art, fashion and more. Live music. \$5 (suggested). 2-10 pm. Alphabet [70 Greenpoint Ave. at Franklin Street in Greenpoint, (347) 406-1705], mspace.com/theulturecaravan.

ART SALE: See Thursday, Feb. 26.

OTHER

TALK, HEART HEALTH: Registration required. **Free.** Noon. New York Methodist Hospital, Executive Dining Room [506 Sixth St. between Seventh and Eighth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 857-5180].

TALK, "A GEOGRAPHY OF SLAVERY AND FREEDOM": Dr. Myra B. Armstead discusses Isabella Van Wageningen (Sojourner Truth) and her connection to Colonial Brooklyn. **Free.** 12 pm. Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum [5816 Clarendon Rd. at E. 59th Street in Flatbush, (718) 629-5400], www.wyckoffassociation.org.

TALK, FAYE WATTLETON: Women's rights activist and president of the Center for the Advancement of Women speaks on feminist issues. 2 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000], www.brooklyn-museum.org.

FILM, "DILLINGER IS DEAD": 6:50 pm, 9:15 pm. See Friday, Feb. 27.

PERFORMANCE ART: James Leonard, "Warbonds Certificates." **Free.** 8 pm. Open Source Gallery [255 17th St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 877-5712], open-source-gallery.org.

OPENING RECEPTION: "For Your Lines Only" group show. Party includes two free drinks. David Goldman plays the Lumiano at 9 pm. \$10. 8-11 pm. Mo Museum [123 Smith St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Boerum Hill], www.micromuseum.com.

SUN, MAR. 1

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

DISCOVERY TOUR: 3 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 21.

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "THE WINTER'S TALE":

FOCUS ON...

Toll taking

CB6 rescinds OK for canal zone project

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Community Board 6 has rescinded its approval of a controversial residential development on the Carroll Gardens side of the fetid Gowanus Canal unless the developer promises — in writing — to include below-market-rate housing in the 447-unit project.

In November, Community Board 6 supported Toll Brothers' request to rezone two blocks to allow the first large, mixed-income housing project on the banks of the polluted waterway.

But the board voted last week to make that approval contingent on a legally binding

agreement to construct affordable housing on the site.

Toll Brothers says the plan sets aside 30 percent of the proposed units as "affordable housing" — but until the developer puts the offer in writing, some residents fear that the builder will take advantage of the lucrative zoning change yet then claim that the poor economy makes it impossible to the company to follow through on the affordable housing promise.

Changing the zoning from manufacturing to residential would allow Toll Brothers to build 12-story towers on the site, which is bounded by Carroll, Second, and Bond

GOWANUS DEVELOPMENT



Community Board 6 approved Toll Brothers' mixed-use project on the banks of the Gowanus Canal. But last week, the board changed its mind.

streets and the canal.

"[Toll Brothers] certainly represented the project as having affordable housing at its core — and that made people willing to accept something that is uncharacteristically larger than would otherwise be allowed," CB6 District hopeful Craig Hammerman said after the nearly unanimous Feb. 11 vote. "So if they are unable to provide

that affordable housing, there is no reason they should be allowed to build something of that size and bulk."

But the builders say they won't put their promise of affordable housing in writing, mostly because federal subsidies that typically subsidize the construction of low-income housing have begun drying up.

"We've always envisioned affordable as part of this project, and we continue to envision it — but affordable housing is not built without subsidies, and if for some reason, subsidies were not available, then we would not be able to build the affordable [units]," said Toll Brothers Vice President David Von Spreckelsen.

"The suggestion that we put something in the deed restriction — something that has never been done in New York City — is not something we would ever entertain as rational business people," he added.

It's unclear whether such an agreement has actually "never been done," according to Department of Housing Preservation and Development spokesman Seth Donlin — but it certainly isn't common.

"While [developers] are strongly incentivized to provide affordable housing, making them write it into the deed is not something that the city would typically do," he said. "We act through incentives, not mandates."

Stop these 'presses'

Jewish Press site for sale on 3rd Av

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Owners of the Jewish Press building on the Park Slope side of the Gowanus Canal are betting the post-industrial wasteland is ready to burst with new life by putting the massive Third Avenue structure up for sale.

The brokers selling the home of the Jewish weekly newspaper for \$10 million are marketing the building for almost every future use under the sun.

"[Its] unique building configuration features a cathedral-like 44-1/2-foot ceiling that opens the possibility for a wide range of uses including industrial, community-facility, recreational facility, self-storage, retail or a future mixed-use residential development," the real-estate firm, TerraCRG, said in a statement.

Developer Shaya Boymelgreen, the builder of the Novo condos nearby on Fourth Avenue, had tried to acquire the property as part of a proposal for a "Gowanus Village" development of 400 condos. But he failed to acquire the Jewish Press headquarters (pictured) and ultimately abandoned the residen-



The Brooklyn Paper file / Dana Rubinstein

tial compound.

The area around Third Street, Third Avenue and the polluted waterway is a virtual development graveyard. Across Third Street from Boymelgreen's failed ambitions is the stillborn Whole Foods supermarket site. The grocery chain now says it needs an outside developer to jumpstart the project.

The city, however, is trying to encourage projects like these in the old industrial and, in some cases, heavily contaminated corridor by launching a sweeping rezoning process that would allow housing and shopping on blocks that are currently restricted to manufacturing use.

'PARK'...

Continued from page 1
climate."

Willner said that operating expenses for the portion of the park development that is expected to be finished by the end of next year — small recreation areas at Pier 1 and Pier 6 — are being covered by revenue from the One Brooklyn Bridge Park condo development, which is expected to net about \$3 million per year.

"After that, we will phase in the hotel, residential buildings and the Empire Stores over time as the remainder of the park is built and additional commensurate operating funds are needed. However, we have a few years before that," she said.



State Sen. Daniel Squadron tears down a "No Entry" sign in celebration of the park's new open-gate policy.

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Methodist 'Goes Red'

New York Methodist Hospital

To promote heart health and increase community awareness about heart disease and its risk factors in women, New York Methodist Hospital held a free health fair in honor of national "Go Red for Women Day." Community members were offered free blood pressure, glucose screenings, educational materials and consultations with healthcare professionals.

"Thankfully, advances in research studies and treatment have brought the fight against heart disease in women to the national stage," said Terrence Sacchi, MD, chief of cardiology at Methodist. "Because heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women, the medical community has to do everything it can to ensure that they receive the treatment they both need and deserve."

Heart disease includes a number of problems affecting the heart and its blood vessels. The different types of heart disease include coronary artery disease, angina, heart attack, stroke, heart arrhythmias, and heart failure. Coronary artery disease (CAD) is the most common form. Call (866) 84-HEART or visit the hospital's website at www.nym.org.

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Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 2/17/2009, bearing Index Number NC-000111-09/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Sarah Yasser Elshatshat. My present name is Sarah El-shatshat. My present address is 445 Dekalb Avenue, #4R, Brooklyn, NY 11205. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is March 2, 2004. BP7

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 12/26/2008, bearing Index Number NC-0001143-08/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Song Eun Hwang. My present name is Song Eun Hwang AKA Grace Song-eun Hwang AKA Grace Hwang. My present address is 447 63rd Street, Second Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11220. My place of birth is Korea. My date of birth is August 27, 1981. BP7

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 2/13/2009, bearing Index Number NC-000115-09/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Mei Zhi Cai Li. My present name is Mei Zhi Cai. My present address is 8890 18th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11214. My place of birth is China. My date of birth is September 21, 1954. BP7

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 2/17/2009, bearing Index Number NC-000108-09/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Taimur Ann Timothy Robert Cheary. My present name is Timothy Robert Cheary. My present address is 100 Grand Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11205. My place of birth is Columbus, Ohio. My date of birth is October 25, 1980. BP7

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 2/17/2009, bearing Index Number NC-000128-09/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Suzie Shujuan Yu. My present name is Suzie Shujuan Yu. My present address is 2197 Coner Island Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11223. My place of birth is China. My date of birth is October 31, 1986. BP7

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 2/17/2009, bearing Index Number NC-000134-09/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of (First) Mark Andrew (Middle) Christopher (Last) Lee. My present name is (First) Mark (Middle) Andrew (Last) Christopher Lee AKA Christopher Lee. My present address is 247 Dean Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217. My place of birth is LIC Hospital, Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is December 13, 1990. BP7

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 2/13/2009, bearing Index Number NC-000116-09/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Devora Miriam Feit. My present name is Deborah Marica Feit AKA Deborah Feit AKA Devora Feit. My present address is 1154 East 24th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11210. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is September 10, 1965. BP7

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 2/17/2009, bearing Index Number NC-000134-09/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Tamara Zuckerman. My present name is Tamara Belenkaya. My present address is 303 Beverly Road, Brooklyn, NY 11218. My place of birth is Kharkov, Ukraine. My date of birth is June 20, 1955. BP7

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 2/18/2009, bearing Index Number NC-000134-09/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Eva Theisha Gaskin. My present name is Eva Theisha Gaskin-Daniel AKA Eva Gaskin. My present address is 725 Henry Street, Brooklyn, NY 11231. My place of birth is New York, New York. My date of birth is July 28, 1981. BP7

Notice of service of process by publication in the General Court of Justice, District Court Division, File No. 09 CVD 06, State of North Carolina, County of Cumberland, Natasha Lucy Noel, Plaintiff, vs. Ansley Bertrand Gaspard, Defendant. To Ansley Bertrand Gaspard, take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action; the nature being sought for is absolute divorce. You are required to make a defense to such pleading no later than forty (40) days after the first publication of this notice being Feb. 21, 2009 and upon your failure to do so, the Plaintiff seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. Roger R. Compton, Attorney at Law, 5311 Rariford Road, PO Box 42836, Fayetteville, NC, 28309, (910) 424-6393. BP7-9

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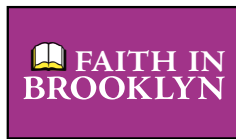
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It's Brooklyn's biggest sport. With November's election around the corner, we'll be looking back at races that were definitely "for the book."



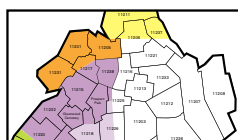
3. June: Main Street

Featuring the shops and services, the moms and pops, and the institutions that are the heart and soul of our communities.



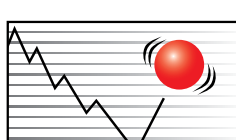
7. November: Health, Mind & Body

The hospitals and services, the doctors and inventors, the pharmacists, and aestheticians, healers, the businesses, athletic clubs, and spas that keep Brooklyn healthy in mind, body and spirit.



4. July/August: Neighborhoods

So many places and faces make up the patchwork of Brooklyn's quilt. A colorful historic overview of Brooklyn's ever-changing neighborhoods.



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